

JPRS 84789

21 November 1983

Southeast Asia Report

No. 1372



FOREIGN BROADCAST INFORMATION SERVICE

NOTE

JPRS publications contain information primarily from foreign newspapers, periodicals and books, but also from news agency transmissions and broadcasts. Materials from foreign-language sources are translated; those from English-language sources are transcribed or reprinted, with the original phrasing and other characteristics retained.

Headlines, editorial reports, and material enclosed in brackets [] are supplied by JPRS. Processing indicators such as [Text] or [Excerpt] in the first line of each item, or following the last line of a brief, indicate how the original information was processed. Where no processing indicator is given, the information was summarized or extracted.

Unfamiliar names rendered phonetically or transliterated are enclosed in parentheses. Words or names preceded by a question mark and enclosed in parentheses were not clear in the original but have been supplied as appropriate in context. Other unattributed parenthetical notes within the body of an item originate with the source. Times within items are as given by source.

The contents of this publication in no way represent the policies, views or attitudes of the U.S. Government.

PROCUREMENT OF PUBLICATIONS

JPRS publications may be ordered from the National Technical Information Service, Springfield, Virginia 22161. In ordering, it is recommended that the JPRS number, title, date and author, if applicable, of publication be cited.

Current JPRS publications are announced in Government Reports Announcements issued semi-monthly by the National Technical Information Service, and are listed in the Monthly Catalog of U.S. Government Publications issued by the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402.

Correspondence pertaining to matters other than procurement may be addressed to Joint Publications Research Service, 1000 North Glebe Road, Arlington, Virginia 22201.

21 November 1983

SOUTHEAST ASIA REPORT

No. 1372

CONTENTS

KAMPUCHEA

VODK on Resolution of Kampuchean Issue (Voice of Democratic Kampuchea, 7 Nov 83)	1
VODK Views Vietnam's Isolation at UN Session (Voice of Democratic Kampuchea, 2 Nov 83)	3
VODK Issues October All-Country Combat Report (Voice of Democratic Kampuchea, 3 Nov 83)	5
Report on Agricultural Developments 24-30 October (Kampuchean media, various dates).....	7
Outgoing PDRY Ambassador Meets Officials (Phnom Penh Domestic Service, 31 Oct, 1 Nov 83)	9
Meets Chea Soth	
Meets Heng Samrin	
Meets Chan Si	
Briefs	
SRV Battalion Commander Killed	11
Increased Japanese Aid to Refugees	11
More Vietnamese Families	11

LAOS

Students Complain About Compulsory Training; Foreign Education Studied (VIENTIANE MAI, 3, 5, 6 Sep 83)	12
Sheet Metal Production Said To Be Up to World Standard (VIENTIANE MAI, 5 Sep 83)	15

Briefs

Khammouan Construction	16
Vientiane Cooperative Expansion	16
Vientiane Capital Cultivation	17

PHILIPPINES

Central Bank Announces 'Import Controls' Package (BUSINESS DAY, 28 Oct 83)	18
Central Bank on Floating of Peso Exchange Rate (Far East Broadcasting Company, 9 Nov 83)	21
Two Army Battalions To Help Contain Demonstrations (APP, 7 Nov 83)	22
Columnists View Military Pledge To Respect Civil Rule (BUSINESS DAY, 9 Nov 83; METRO MANILA TIMES, 9 Nov 83) ...	23
'So Where's the Guarantee?' Pledge 'Reassuring,' But...	
Jeepney Drivers Ask Imelda Not To Quit (BULLETIN TODAY, 8 Nov 83)	27

Briefs

Japanese Tuna Fishing Restrictions	28
New Party Opposes U.S. Support	28
No Foreign Exchange Nationalization	28
Labor Groups Plan 'Mass Leave'	29
NPA Supporters Take Oaths	29

THAILAND

Local Attitudes on Laos, National Level Policy Contrasted (MATICHON SUT SAPPADA, 2 Oct 83)	30
Cabinet Views Proposal To Split Military Ranks, Salary (MATICHON, 5 Oct 83)	34
Irregular Strength Reported, Army Reserve Mission To Expand (MATUPHUM, 29 Sep 83)	36
Navy Chief of Staff Discusses Force Modernization, Inter-Service Disputes (Samak Saiwong Interview; MATICHON, 26 Sep 83)	39

VIETNAM

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE AND AID

Le Duan Greets Portuguese Communist Party Leader (VNA, 9 Nov 83)	43
Song Be Province Marks GOSR, SRV-USSR Treaty (VNA, 7 Nov 83)	44
Soviet Group Attends Generator's Inauguration (Hanoi Domestic Service, 30 Oct 83)	45
SRV-USSR Agricultural Engineering School Opens (VNA, 7 Nov 83)	47
Postal Service Develops With Soviet Aid (VNA, 6 Nov 83)	48
Construction of Soviet-Aided Project Described (VNA, 6 Nov 83)	50
Soviet Science, Technology Assistance Described (VNA, 5 Nov 83)	52
Minister Writes on Soviet Educational Aid (VNA, 3 Nov 83)	54
Activities Mark SRV-USSR Friendship Anniversary (VNA, 3 Nov 83)	56
Official in Nhan Dan on USSR Aid to Oil Industry (VNA, 28 Oct 83)	57
Paper on Upcoming Kriangsak Visit to SRV (THE NATION REVIEW, 28 Oct 83)	59
SRV Joins in Search for U.S. Ship's Survivors (AFP, 4 Nov 83)	61
Minister in Nhan Dan on USSR Agricultural Aid (VNA, 26 Oct 83)	62
Briefs	
Vietnam-Sweden Medical Cooperation	64
Olteanu Greeted	64
USSR Research Ship Visits Haiphong	64
Education Delegation Ends Visit	65
Soviet Union Provides Medical Aid	65
National Day Reception Offered	65
USSR Amity Delegation Received	65
Friendship Body's Anniversary Marked	66

Lecturers Visit SRV	66
Chambers of Commerce Sign Agreement	66
Culture Delegation Meets Zimyanin	66
Minister Arrives in Albania	66
Pushkin 'Subinstitute' Inaugurated	67
Soviet Press Delegation Ends Visit	67
Malian Ambassador Received	67
Ballet Performance	67
Medical Cooperation With Algeria	68
VONADK Claims Leaflets Urge Withdrawal	68
Leaflets Urge Soviet Withdrawal	68
Soviet Training Cooperation Programs	68
ECONOMIC PLANNING, TRADE AND FINANCE	
NHAN DAN Discusses Tax Collection Situation (Hanoi Domestic Service, 1 Nov 83)	70
Briefs	
Provinces Lauded for Savings Deposits	72
AGRICULTURE	
Briefs	
Dai Loc Rice Harvest	73
HEAVY INDUSTRY AND CONSTRUCTION	
Economic Aspect of Hydroelectricity Development Envisaged (Ho Ngoc Phu; KY THUAT DIEN LUC, No 2 Apr 83)	74
HEALTH, EDUCATION AND WELFARE	
Report on Damage Caused by Tropical Storm 'Lex' (VNA, 28 Oct 83)	80
Briefs	
Casualties, Damage From Storm Kim	81
Heavy Rains Cause Floods	81

VODK ON RESOLUTION OF KAMPUCHEAN ISSUE

BK081143 (Clandestine) Voice of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2330 GMT
7 Nov 83

[Station commentary: "Correct or Incorrect Settlement of the Kampuchean Problem Will Have a Good or Bad Effect on the Security and Stability of the Whole World"]

[Text] The Kampuchean problem is an important world event caused by the Vietnamese aggression; that is, by Vietnam sending hundreds of thousands of troops to invade and occupy Kampuchea--an independent, sovereign, peaceful, neutral and nonaligned state and a full-fledged member of the United Nations.

The Vietnamese Le Duan enemy's aggression against Kampuchea barbarously, truculently and grossly violated the sacred principles of international law and the UN Charter. This is legally speaking. Strategically speaking, the whole world sees clearly that the Vietnamese Le Duan enemy, who has concluded a military treaty with the Soviet Union and enjoyed full backing and aid from the Soviet Union, sent hundreds of thousands of troops armed with modern weapons to invade Kampuchea--a small and weak country--in an attempt to realize its own strategy of establishing an Indochinese federation and to implement both its regional expansion strategy and its Soviet boss' regional and global expansion strategy. Therefore, the Vietnamese Le Duan enemy's war of aggression and expansion against Kampuchea committed with the full backing of the Soviet Union has posed a direct and serious threat to the security of Kampuchea's neighbors, to peace and stability throughout Southeast Asia, and to peace and security in the world.

Since the Vietnamese aggression against Kampuchea effects both the law and the regional and world peace, security and stability, the world community has opposed the Vietnamese aggression in Kampuchea for the past 5 years. No matter to what tricky and deceitful maneuvers and diplomatic schemes the Vietnamese and their accomplices have resorted, the world community has still refused to legalize or accept the Vietnamese aggression against Kampuchea as a fait accompli. The world community has strongly demanded that Vietnam withdraw all of its aggressor troops from Kampuchea and respect the Kampuchean people's right to self-determination.

This stand of the world community has been confirmed clearly at every session of the UN General Assembly since 1979 through the casting of an ever-increasing majority vote in support of the UN resolution that demands the total, immediate and unconditional withdrawal of the Vietnamese aggressor troops from Kampuchea and respect for Kampuchea's independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity and the Kampuchean people's right to decide their own destiny with no outside interference through a free election under UN supervision. The fact that the overwhelming majority of UN member countries have supported the five UN General Assembly resolutions demanding the total withdrawal of the Vietnamese aggressor troops from Kampuchea clearly attests that these UN General Assembly resolutions are the sole framework for the correct, just and permanent settlement of the Kampuchean problem, thus ensuring security, stability and peace in Southeast Asia and the whole world. Solving the Kampuchean problem in any way other than within the framework of these five UN General Assembly resolutions is tantamount to being hoodwinked by the Vietnamese maneuvers which will lead toward the recognition of the Vietnamese aggression in Kampuchea as a fait accompli. By so doing, the Kampuchean problem will become a bad precedent that affects the peace, security and stability of the whole world, because if Vietnam is allowed to commit aggression against Kampuchea at will and can force the world community to follow its demand, the Vietnamese expansionists will be encouraged to carry on their Soviet boss' strategies of aggression and expansion against the other neighboring countries in a more truculent and gross manner. Moreover, the other aggressors and expansionists will certainly use this bad precedent in Kampuchea as a pretext for aggression against other countries in other regions throughout the world. After that they will force the world community to accept the outcome of their aggression as Vietnam has done in Kampuchea.

For this reason, it is necessary for all forces that cherish peace, justice and independence throughout the world to stand firm on the correct solution to the Kampuchean problem. Only by implementing the five UN General Assembly resolutions--total and unconditional withdrawal of the Vietnamese aggressor troops from Kampuchea so as to allow the Kampuchean people to decide their own destiny without any outside interference, through a free election under UN supervision--can the Kampuchean problem be correctly, justly and permanently resolved; the security of the neighboring countries be guaranteed; and peace, stability, and security in Southeast Asia and the whole world be ensured.

CSO: 4212/12

VODK VIEWS VIETNAM'S ISOLATION AT UN SESSION

BK031017 (Clandestine) Voice of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2330 GMT
2 Nov 83

[Article: "Ridiculous Words"]

[Text] Following the 38th UN General Assembly's decision to accept and recognize Democratic Kampuchea's credentials and legitimate right as the only rightful representative of Kampuchea without a vote, Hoang Bich Son, permanent representative of the Vietnamese authorities at the United Nations, arrogantly boasted that the Vietnamese do not consider Kampuchean seat an important question and that for this reason they are not going to spend a lot of energy about it, and so on. These words of the Le Duan Vietnamese enemy's representative at the United Nations made other people who were attending the 38th UN General Assembly really laugh. They mockingly asked how could Vietnam dare raise any objection to Democratic Kampuchea's credentials this year since they have heard and seen that this year Vietnam is more isolated than ever, and have realized that Vietnam's efforts of the past 4 years to use all kinds of deceitful diplomatic maneuvers and tricks in an attempt to dupe others to leave the Kampuchean seat vacant have been successively and disgracefully defeated every year? So this year, if Vietnam had dared raise an objection to Democratic Kampuchea's credentials, it would certainly have been defeated in a more serious and shameful manner than in previous years. The words of the Hanoi Vietnamese representative at the United Nations on the one hand made other people really laugh, and on the other, revealed even more clearly to the world laugh, and on the other, revealed even more clearly to the world community the boastful and arrogant nature of the Hanoi Vietnamese expansionists. People burst out saying that, despite this blazing and disgraceful defeat, the Vietnamese still arrogantly boast that they do not consider the Kampuchean seat an important question. What would happen if they had instead been victors? How boastful, arrogant and insolent they would have become! Perhaps they would use the UN Charter to sit upon and certainly would have barbarously carried out further aggressive and expansionist policies against neighboring countries. At the plenary session at the UN General Assembly to debate the Vietnamese aggression in Kampuchea, fully realizing the situation of the Hanoi Vietnamese aggression in Kampuchea, many member countries of the United Nations exposed and condemned the Le Duan Vietnamese enemy aggressors' savage act aggression and annexation and considered it an act of insolent and arrogant violation of the UN Charter and the principles of international law. They have continued to

raise their voices in categorically demanding that Vietnam withdraw all its aggressor troops from Kampuchea immediately and unconditionally, and respect the Kampuchean people's right to self-determination without outside interference. At the end of the debate on the Kampuchean problem, the UN General Assembly voted with an overwhelming majority--105 against 23--to adopt a resolution calling, once again, on the Hanoi Vietnamese enemy aggressors to withdraw all their aggressor troops from Kampuchea immediately and unconditionally. This is another smash right at the mouth and at the arrogance and insolence of the Le Duan Vietnamese enemy aggressors.

CSO: 4212/12

VODK ISSUES OCTOBER ALL-COUNTRY COMBAT REPORT

BK040559 (Clandestine) Voice of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2330 GMT
3 Nov 83

[October battle result from battlefields throughout the country]

[Text] 1. Koh Kong-Kompong Som battlefield: Our national army and guerrillas killed 258 Vietnamese soldiers and wounded 283 others for a total of 541 casualties.

2. Leach battlefield: We killed 63 Vietnamese soldiers and wounded 34 others for a total of 97 casualties.

3. Samlot battlefield: We killed 103 Vietnamese soldiers and wounded 121 others for a total of 224 casualties.

4. Pailin battlefield: We killed 99 Vietnamese soldiers and wounded 139 others for a total of 238 casualties.

5. Sisophon-South of Route 5 battlefield: We killed 135 Vietnamese soldiers and wounded 152 others for a total of 287 casualties.

6. Sisophon-North of Route 5 battlefield: We killed 14 Vietnamese soldiers and wounded 14 others for a total of 28 casualties.

7. Siem Reap-Route 6 battlefield: We killed 202 Vietnamese soldiers and wounded 186 others for a total of 388 casualties.

8. Chhep-Thalabariavat-Preah Vihear battlefield: We killed 92 Vietnamese soldiers and wounded 117 others for a total of 209 casualties.

9. Kompong Cham-Kompong Thom battlefield: We killed 24 Vietnamese soldiers and wounded 17 others for a total of 41 casualties.

10. Moun-Koas Kralar battlefield: We killed 28 Vietnamese soldiers and wounded 37 others for a total of 65 casualties.

11. Pursat battlefield: We killed 11 Vietnamese soldiers and wounded 10 others for a total of 21 casualties.

12. Western region battlefield: We killed 233 Vietnamese soldiers and wounded 442 others for a total of 675 casualties.

13. Southwestern region battlefield: We killed 75 Vietnamese soldiers and wounded 113 others for a total of 188 casualties.

14. Northeast-Eastern region battlefield: We killed 16 Vietnamese soldiers.

In sum, in October our Democratic Kampuchea National Army and guerrillas killed 1,353 Vietnamese soldiers and wounded 1,665 others for a total of 3,018 casualties.

Long live our valiant and courageous national army and guerrillas of Democratic Kampuchea and our Kampuchean people!

CSO: 4212/12

REPORT ON AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENTS 24-30 OCTOBER

[Editorial Report] BK310859 Kampuchean media monitored by Bangkok bureau have reported the following agricultural developments during the reporting period 24-30 October:

National level: Phnom Penh SPK in English at 1101 GMT on 28 October transmits the following report:

Despite a very severe drought, peasants in Kampuchea have managed to complete 89 percent of the plan for rice, putting 1,4418,300 [as received] hectares under this crop. Taking lead are the Provinces of Battambang, Siem Reap-Oddar Meanchey, Kompong Chhang, Preah Vihear, Rattanakiri, Svay Rieng, Pursat, Kompong Thom and Kratie. Industrial and subsidiary food crops covered thousands of hectares, including 62,000 hectares of maize, 19,000 hectares of green bean, 6,600 hectares of cassava, 3,550 hectares of sweet potato, 13,148 hectares of vegetables, 4,020 hectares of peanut, 9,000 hectares of sesame, 5,020 hectares of sugar cane, 300 hectares of cotton, 150 hectares of jute, and 37,500 rows of pepper. The cattle herd has been increased to 1,702,340 head against last year's 1,323,500. Peasants also keep 824,500 pigs and 4,560,000 domestic fowls. Five thousand one hundred [metric] tons of sea fish and 58,650 [metric] tons of river fish were netted in the 1982-83 season, and 73,000 cubic metres of timber, or 97.40 percent of the plan for the whole year, have been exported. Several dams have been built or repaired to water a total area of 11,000 hectares, and a weather station has been set up at the town of Kompong Som. The Agriculture Ministry has also supplied peasants with 5,000 [metric] tons of chemical fertilizer and 11,000 kilogrammes of insecticide. It has also sent 304 motor pumps to Prey Veng, Takeo, Kandal and Svay Rieng to help get water to the fields.

Kompong Chhnang Province: Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian at 0430 GMT on 24 October reports that from the beginning of the rainy season to the end of September, peasants in Kompong Tralach District transplanted over 12,000 hectares of all types of rice and planted over 1,000 hectares of subsidiary crops and vegetables. At 0430 GMT on 25 October, the radio also reports that in Toek Phos District, by the end of September, 7,000 hectares of all types of rice were transplanted. The report adds that over 900 hectares of land were reclaimed. According to the radio at 1300 GMT on 25 October, peasants in Rolea P'ier District transplanted 9,000 hectares of rainy season rice and planted over 400 hectares of subsidiary crops and vegetables. The same source reports at 1300 GMT on 26 October that from the beginning of the rainy season to 3 October, peasants in the province planted and transplanted over 48,500 hectares of rice, or 99 percent of the plan. At 0430 GMT on 29 October, the radio reports that

peasants in Kompong Leng District broadcast and transplanted over 5,800 hectares of various types of rice.

Kompong Cham Province: By the end of September, peasants in Chamka Leu District planted 6,700 hectares of rice, 150 hectares more than planned according to SPK in English at 1131 GMT on 24 October, which adds that 930 hectares of waste land were turned into ricefield and that over 4,265 hectares of soybeans, 555 hectares of peanuts, 1,056 hectares of sesame and 28 hectares of jute were planted.

Battambang Province: According to SPK in French at 0422 GMT on 25 October by the beginning of this month, peasants in Moung Russei District transplanted 31,448 hectares of rice out of the planned 33,000 hectares. On 26 October at 1300 GMT, the radio reports that in Ratanamondol District, by October peasants planted and transplanted over 2,000 hectares of all types of rice.

Kmapot Province: In a report broadcast on 27 October at 0411 GMT, SPK in French says by the beginning of this month, peasants reclaimed 95,000 hectares of land, 3,600 hectares more than last year. The report adds that the province plans to grow 2,000 hectares of rice this dry season.

Kompong Tom Province: According to SPK in French at 0411 GMT on 27 October, the trade service of Stoung District has so far bought 4,000 metric tons of paddy and over 3 metric tons of resin from the people. In another report transmitted at 0439 GMT on 30 October, SPK in French says that so far, the province has reclaimed 116,460 hectares of land, representing 97 percent of the plan and an increase of 1,000 hectares compared to last year. The report adds that 1,100 hectares of rice have been transplanted and 6,000 hectares of subsidiary crops planted. The provincial veterinary service vaccinated 16,000 head of cattle against epizootic disease during a period of 20 days in October, while the agricultural service distributed 690 liters of insecticides and more than 5,600 kg of rat poison to peasants in the province, the report concludes.

Prey Veng Province: Phnom Penh Domestic Service at 0430 GMT on 29 October reports that in Peam Chor District over 3,000 hectares of rice were transplanted by mid-October. According to a report from the same source at 1300 GMT on 29 October, by mid-October peasants in Kamchay Mea District transplanted 21,000 hectares of rainy season rice and planted over 1,800 hectares of late rice.

Svay Riegn Province: In a report broadcast at 0430 GMT on 29 October, the radio says that more than 18,700 hectares of rice have so far, been transplanted in Svay Teap District.

Kratie Province: By the end of September, over 13,800 hectares of rice were transplanted and 1,800 hectares of subsidiary crops planted by peasants, according to the radio at 1300 GMT on 29 October.

Siem Reap-Oddar Meanchey Province: In a report broadcast at 0430 GMT on 30 October, the radio says that by the end of September, 163,000 hectares of rainy season rice--or 104.4 percent of the plan--were transplanted and 4,769 hectares of subsidiary crops planted by peasants.

CSO: 4212/12

OUTGOING PDRY AMBASSADOR MEETS WITH OFFICIALS

Meets Chea Soth

BK310734 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 0430 GMT 31 Oct 83

[Text] Comrade Yasin Ahmad Salih, ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen, paid a farewell visit to Comrade Chea Soth, member of the KPRP Central Committee Political Bureau, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers, and minister of planning, at the Office of the Council of Ministers on the morning of 30 October before taking leave at the end of his 4-year mission to Kampuchea.

Comrade Chea Soth stressed the comprehensive development experienced by the Kampuchean people during the past 5 years, saying that this development is made possible by the efforts of the Kampuchean people as well as the moral and material assistance to the Soviet Union, Vietnam and other fraternal socialist countries in the world. Chea Soth pointed out the dark and perfidious moves and plots of the U.S. imperialists who, in collusion with the Beijing expansionists, have used the blood-thirsty genocidal Pol Pot-Ieng Sary-Khieu Samphan-Sihanouk-Son Sann clique--their lackeys--to sabotage the rebirth of the Kampuchean people. He also stressed that the Kampuchean situation is irreversible, for the Kampuchean people enjoy the full support of the world's socialist countries. No reactionary forces can break this solidarity.

Speaking on the occasion, Comrade Yasin Ahmad Salih highly appreciated and warmly admired the hard work and courage displayed by the Kampuchean people in overcoming all difficulties to bring about development in all fields. He said that in the not too distant future the PRK will certainly attain true socialism and prosperity.

He stressed the international opinion is following and getting a better understanding of the reality in Kampuchea. Kampuchea is winning greater international recognition and support with each passing day. He also affirmed that the Yemeni party and people will continue to support the Kampuchean Party and people forever.

This talk proceeded in a very cordial and joyous atmosphere of proletarian internationalist [word indistinct].

Meets Heng Samrin

BK010829 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 0430 GMT 1 Nov 83

[Text] On the morning of 31 October, Comrade Secretary General Heng Samrin, chairman of the Council of State, received Comrade Yasin Ahmad Salih, PDRY [People's Democratic Republic of Yemen] extraordinary and plenipotentiary ambassador to Kampuchea, at the Chamcar Mon State Palace, when he concluded his diplomatic mission in Kampuchea and was to leave for his fatherland.

Comrade Secretary General Heng Samrin thanked the ambassador, who fulfilled his noble duties on the Angkor land and developed and strengthened the ties of solidarity and warm cooperation between the parties, governments and peoples of the two countries--Kampuchea and Yemen. Furthermore, the Yemeni party, government and people have denounced the Pol Pot-Leng Sary-Khieu Samphan genocidal clique on the international scene. In particular, Yemen has been shown the reality in Kampuchea. Comrade Secretary General Heng Samrin also expressed his complete support for the struggle of the Yemeni people against the U.S. imperialists and other reactionaries for the cause of peace of their fatherland and for other peace-loving peoples in the world.

In reply, Comrade Yasin Ahmad Salih highly praised the struggle and the efforts of the Kampuchean people in the construction and defense of their country under the leadership of the KPRP. He assured that in the name of the Yemeni party, government and people, he would like to wholeheartedly support and continue to cooperate with the KPRP in its just struggle.

Meets Chan Si

BK310745 Phnom Penh SPK in French 0417 GMT 31 Oct 83

[Text] Phnom Penh, 31 Oct (SPK)--Chan Si, member of the KPRP Central Committee Political Bureau and chairman of the Council of Ministers, yesterday cordially received in Phnom Penh Yasin Ahmad Salih, ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen [PDRY] to Kampuchea.

The Kampuchean leader on this occasion appreciated the uninterrupted development of the PDRY in its advance toward true socialism and voiced his conviction that despite the very complicated situation in the Middle East, the revolutionary cause of the Yemeni people continues to advance.

For his part, the Yemeni diplomat expressed confidence in the victory of the imposing task of the Kampuchean party and state.

Previously, Ambassador Yasin Ahmad Salih was also received by Chea Soth, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers and minister of planning.

The two sides proceeded to an exchange of experiences and views on deepening the relations of friendship, solidarity and economic cooperation between the two countries.

CSO: 4212/12

KAMPUCHEA

BRIEFS

SRV BATTALION COMMANDER KILLED--Chikreng District: On 16 October, we attacked the Vietnamese position at (Vat) village, killing two and wounding four. On 18 October, we ambushed with mines the Vietnamese soldiers near (Kumru) village, killing 20 and wounding five, including a battalion commander and a company commander killed. [Report from Siem Reap battlefield] [Excerpt] [BK280203 (Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2300 GMT 27 Oct 83]

INCREASED JAPANESE AID TO REFUGEES--On 1 November 1983, the Japanese foreign minister announced that the Japanese Government has decided to contribute \$12.5 million for the Kampuchean refugees living along the Kampuchea-Thai border. This aid will be provided through the world food program which is responsible for buying rice for these refugees. [Text] [BK050213 (Clandestine) Voice of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2330 GMT 4 Nov 83]

MORE VIETNAMESE FAMILIES--On 15 October, the Vietnamese enemy brought 70 Vietnamese families to settle in Lbaeuk commune, in the vicinity of (Stoeng Kaoh Chraloh) monastery, and along Route 3 in Chhuk District, Kampot Province. The Vietnamese enemy also chased away our people. [Text] [BK100140 (Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2300 GMT 9 Nov 83]

CSO: 4212/12

STUDENTS COMPLAIN ABOUT COMPULSORY TRAINING; FOREIGN EDUCATION STUDIED

Vientiane VIENTIANE MAI in Lao 3, 5, 6 Sep 83

["Conversation With the Editor" Column: "Assigning for Study Abroad"]

[3 Sep 83 p 2]

[Text] [Question] Dear VIENTIANE MAI editor. We have a question to discuss with you which we hope you will explain to us so we will clearly understand and give moral support in studying. Our question is as follows: 1. The assigning of study abroad and 2. when graduates do not want to study teaching but the organization sends them to do this; what do you think of this? We do not understand this issue and would like you to explain it to us. Please answer this in the newspaper and we will wait to read it. 29 July 1983
(signed) Students.

[Answer] First of all we would like to apologize to you for having cut out a lot of your discussion. However, these questions you asked are probably complete. Please do not feel slighted so quickly. Your letter expresses your slighted feeling, frustration, loneliness and unreasonable lack of awareness. Looking at your words we can tell right away that you looked only at the phenomena but overlooked the nature of the problem. If we were to say you lacked revolutionary vision in looking at the problem we would not be wrong. Thus, we would like you to improve your own ideology, mold yourselves to be new people and students who are fully qualified with solid views and revolutionary morality. Don't you know that you will be our succeeding generation? The plenum of the party Central Committee has often said that "constructing the new regime means to mold the new man; molding the new man means to construct ideology." Therefore, the problem of ideology is the number one problem of which we should become aware. The party plenum has already stated clearly that "in the transformation and construction of socialism in our country we must carry out three revolutions at the same time. Of these the revolution in ideology and culture must go one step ahead." Can you see that ideology is the number one problem to which we must pay attention? Now we would like to try to go back to your question.

1. VIENTIANE MAI has discussed this many times in this column. [To help you] we would like to briefly discuss with you the following: studying abroad, no matter in which country, must depend on our government scholarships or on aid

for education from different countries. If there are many scholarships then many people will be able to go, but if there are only a few not many people will be able to go; it depends. It has been the case that the fraternal socialist countries have given us a fairly large amount of help each year. While that is true, there is still not enough to meet the demand. There are still many students left, e.g., prepared to go with no place to go.

[5 Sep 83 p2]

[Text] You have to first study the cause of this problem. Then you look for the purpose of and conditions for those who can go. Based on what I discussed with teachers and education committees in many places, their opinions were that those who go to study abroad must be good students with clear backgrounds and good qualifications. Moreover, it is an important plan for the children of those cadres who have done good deeds for the country, and who have sacrificed their lives for the country. Whoever makes sacrifices for the country is an excellent man. The party and government have attentively cared for his family because he has made the supreme sacrifice for the interests of all. Please understand this problem. Do not argue without reason, and do not accuse them of being favorers because those people did things we cannot do. Thus, we should [provide] them with whatever things we can. We must know how to make sacrifices for them. They made sacrifices for us; but what about us? Can't we at least do this? What they did for us has great value. Their achievements are tremendous. Because of their achievements we can be what we are now; we can study and do everything. Therefore, you should not be quick to be selfish. Please forgive me in speaking this way. We do not blame you but only want you to understand some of the problems. You should first understand them and study their cause and effects thoroughly.

2. Those who do not do what the organization wants them to are the worst; they are the ones the new society does not want. You should read your own promises in your personal history to see what you said to the organization. After you read them you should think whether the actual practice and the promise are consistent. It is sad that you are still young and active; you should not be stubborn like this. You must change. "All for the national defense and national socialist construction." Thus, when the organization assigns you to do any task you must do it whether you like it or not for the country and the interest of the whole. We are sorry for your backward ideology. Our preceding generation, our parents and our elder brothers and sisters made uncountable sacrifices; however, when you yourselves were assigned to study teaching you objected. What was the matter? If our heroes or our preceding generation who sacrificed their lives for their country had the same ideology as you, our country would not have gained the independence, peace and democracy it now has.

[6 Sep 83 p 2]

[Text] They were willing to make sacrifices for the country and do anything assigned by the organization. There are also a lot of people of the present

generation who are willing to make sacrifices. Therefore, you should learn and copy their model. You are still young: you should determinedly study and rebuild your new ideology in order to become new men, the true LPRP succeeding generation. Our nation's history will record your heroic deeds in the future. When you have your own children and they are disobedient, what will you do as a parent? Will you be sad or happy? Think carefully, and then decide. It is still not too late for you. You must decide now. We would like to ask you a question. "Will you become revolutionary or would you only rather go along with the revolution and wait for your chance to take an advantage only for yourselves?" You should be ashamed of yourselves. Do not be selfish. We think that if you have a chance to study it is an excellent opportunity; it does not matter what the field of study is, they are all good if they are assigned by the organization. Whatever the organization tells us to do we must do it all. When it says we must go, we have to go. When it says we must stay, we have to stay. When we do this we will be called the new socialist man. We do not deny that now our country is in a period of feverish life-and-death struggle between the socialists and capitalists to see who will win. The [private sector ideology] that still clings within us always wants to revive to form in ourselves. Therefore, if we do not decide to get rid of it the private sector ideology will defeat us and our ideology will become capitalist. Winning only for yourselves will lead to disaster and you will become the people not wanted by society.

This long discussion represents part of our opinion which you wanted to know. Now that you know this you should think it over again and choose to follow only the right ideas. Remember, "we were born to be fellow human beings in this life. What can we lead others to do? What useful things can we do for the society we live in? Or else, we do not want to do anything. What can we gain from society, and what does society give to us?"

Well! We have had a rather long discussion. However, we believe that students like yourselves probably understand a [little] discussion like this. Thank you.

9884
CSO: 4206/3

SHEET METAL PRODUCTION SAID TO BE UP TO WORLD STANDARD

Vientiane VIENTLANE MAI in Lao 5 Sep 83 pp 1, 4

[Article: "Lao Sheet Zinc Quality Is Good and Meets International Standards"]

[Text] The Lao sheet zinc production factory operates 24 hours a day. Its production is of good quality and meets international standards.

This was the statement of Mr Khampheng Thepsimeuang, director of the Lao Sheet Zinc and [Mosquito Repellent] Enterprise subordinate to the Ministry of Industry, Handicrafts and Forestry. He added that for the 1983 sheet zinc production the first phase has started on 21 May. Its production time is divided into 3 shifts of 8 hours apiece totaling 24 hours each day. Within 24 hours they are able to produce as many as 7,000 zinc sheets.

Mr Khampheng Themsimeuang said that now our factory is producing 2 types of grooved sheet zinc, 0.17 mm thick and 0.19 mm thick. These meet international standards. Moreover, they also produce 3 types of flat sheet zinc of 0.25, 0.30 and 0.34 mm thickness. This flat sheet zinc is for buckets, watering cans, and salt boiling pots.

Along with the improvement in work procedures within the factory to be more efficient and to make it easier to get [involved] in the work, Mr Khampheng Thepsimeuang said that our factory also improved zinc production techniques to gradually have better quality.

Mr Khampheng Thepsimeuang added that 21 May 1983 to 12 August 1983 was the first phase of 1983 production of our factory. The workers were able to achieve their task according to the production plan set by the factory. During this period they were able to produce all types of sheet zinc totaling 584,752 sheets, including 560,395 sheets of grooved sheet zinc for roofing. Moreover, they also produced a fair amount of steel nails for hammering into zinc roofing, and mosquito repellent. These were able to meet the needs of society very well. Especially for sheet zinc production, we were able to carry out as much as 58 percent of the whole year's plan.

At the end Mr Khampheng Thepsimeuang said that in 1983 according to the plan they will try to produce 1 million sheets of zinc, 60,000 steel nails, and 80,000 boxes of mosquito repellent.

9884
CSO: 4206/3

BRIEFS

KHAMMOUAN CONSTRUCTION--Along with attentively carrying out the construction plan for the water pumping machine station in Se Bang Fai located in Ban Hatsiangdi, Nong Bok District, Khammouan Province, whose construction, by September 1983, has been 50 percent completed, cadres and workers of the Central Irrigation and Construction Company No 2, Khammouan branch, are also responsible for other construction assigned by the province, and work with a spirit of high responsibility and success. Now they have completed 100 percent of the paddy rice silo construction for the provincial trade company in Nong Bok District; the sugar plant construction is 100 percent complete; the Khamkeut District hospital is 50 percent complete; the Laos-Vietnam border customs checkpoint in Khamkeut District is 80 percent complete; and housing construction and repairs for workers and the construction of a warehouse for equipment of the company branch is 100 percent complete. Moreover, the cadres and workers of this company have also completed 100 percent of the surveying for the medium voltage electric line that goes to the Pha Hom rock production site in Ban Dong. They have completed 90 percent of the altering of the roof of the washing factory for the Lao Mine Exploitation Company in Bo Nong Seun produced 80,000 bricks, and have completed, on the average, 80 percent of the plan for ready-made furniture, e.g., tables, chairs, beds, cupboards, etc. Now the Central Irrigation Construction Company No 2 is continuously and actively carrying out their construction in order to obtain new and greater achievements. [Text] [Vientiane KHAOSAN PATHET LAO in Lao 7 Sep 83 p A1] 9884

VIENTIANE COOPERATIVE EXPANSION--From 1981 to the first 6 months of 1983 we can see that there has been a fair increase in the number of well organized agricultural co-ops. In 1981 there were only 70 agricultural co-op units. In 1982 the number increased to 81 units. In 1983 there are 103 units. This means that in 1983 the agricultural co-ops throughout Vientiane Capital have increased by 33 units when compared with that for 1981. Moreover, the number of co-op members and rice fields has also increased. In 1981 there was a total of 9,375 members, 1,582 families and 1,641 hectares of rice fields. In 1982 there was a total of 12,350 people, 2,052 families, and 2,155 hectares. In the first 6 months of 1983 there was a total of 15,649 members, 2,561 families, and 3,025 hectares. This means that now 9 percent of all the farmers throughout Vientiane Capital have awakened and volunteered to become members of agricultural co-ops. It is expected that by the end of 1983 more private families will have voluntarily converted to agricultural co-ops, and

[the number] will exceed that for 1981 by as many as 46 units. [Text]
[Vientiane VIENTIANE MAI in Lao 1 Sep 83 pp 1, 4] 9884

VIENTIANE CAPITAL CULTIVATION--During this year's wet rice production season, since June 1983, the members of 103 units of agricultural co-ops and farmers throughout Vientiane Capital have put all their spirit actively and cheerfully into their production. By now they have been able to complete planting their wet rice on about 95 percent of all 32,857 hectares. Now the farmers in each place have started to take care of their wet rice in a spirit of emulation to implement the plenum of the Third Party Congress of the LPRP in order to obtain a fruitful victory for this year's wet rice production season. [Text] [Vientiane VIENTIANE MAI in Lao 5 Sep 83 p 1] 9884

CSu: 4206/3

CENTRAL BANK ANNOUNCES 'IMPORT CONTROLS' PACKAGE

HK281444 Manila BUSINESS DAY in English 28 Oct 83 p 3

[Text] The Central Bank [CB] yesterday announced a package of measures which institute a regime of de facto import controls at least during the 90-day moratorium on foreign principal debt payments.

CB Circulars No 966, No 963, and No 965, all dated 25 October, will allocate foreign exchange to be used for import financing only to what BUSINESS DAY sources had disclosed were so-called "critical items" numbering 400. Unlike the type of import and foreign exchange controls instituted in the 1950s when the country similarly faced a foreign-exchange crisis, the allocation of foreign exchange will be undertaken not through any type of import-license requirements but through guidelines to the commercial banking system.

According to a CB press statement, Circular No 966 formalizes an agreement between the CB and the Bankers Association of the Philippines (BAP). It states: "all banks shall sell to the CB 80 percent of their foreign exchange receipts from merchandise exports, services and transfers as soon as these are booked as part of their "Due from Foreign Banks" account. This requirement shall not apply to receipts from deposits under Circulars 343 and 547 (the foreign currency deposit system)."

Pool--"The amount sold shall be constituted into a pool for the purpose of meeting payments for oil imports, official development assistance loans, interest payments due foreign banks on public sector debt, treaty payments and other similarly essential payments. Any amounts not required for the purpose shall be returned to the banking system for utilization in meeting their trade-related obligations and priority imports, in accordance with operating guidelines which shall be developed by a joint committee of the Central Bank and the BAP," the circular said.

The list of 400 critical items for which banks would be allowed to open letters of credit for, BUSINESS DAY learned, will be contained in these guidelines.

Circular No 966 says government-owned and related banks should coordinate on the use of the foreign exchange earnings retained by or returned to them. It gives priority to urgent requirements of government-owned or controlled corporations, including food grains, fertilizers, steel, and of public utilities.

The CB said the ceiling on the amount of "excess foreign exchange assets" which commercial banks may hold under MAAB No 42 memorandum to authorized agent banks (dated 19 September 1983) is temporarily suspended for the duration of the effectivity of Circular No 966.

Circular No 963 allows exporters to make no dollar imports and/or imports on consignment basis of raw materials for reexport, subject to certain conditions.

Expanded—Circular No 963 expands the list of no-dollar importations allowed under Circulars No 808 and No 849 as amended.

Firms that will be eligible for imports on a no-dollar basis and/or imports on consignment basis of raw materials are limited to:

CB-Certified export-oriented firms under MAAB dated 21 February 1970;

firms registered with the export-processing zone authority;

export-producers registered with the Board of Investments;

other export-producers with agreements for processing, assembling, repacking, and other analogous activities with their foreign principals or are duly established subsidiaries of foreign companies.

Circular No 963 says no dollar imports and/or imports on consignment basis of raw materials are subject to the following conditions:

Only raw materials for actual end-use requirements of the exporting producer firm may be allowed;

whenever applicable the existing requirement for permit, clearances, certifications, etc. for such importation shall remain in force; and

shipment under this particular circular shall be effected (bill of lading date), on or before 31 January 1984, and release of the shipment will be subject to prior CB approval.

Circular No 964 similarly allows the importations on a no-dollar basis of some 90 items for domestic use. These are essential producer items such as milk, chemicals, pharmaceuticals and electrical and mechanical equipment parts.

The CB said no-dollar imports of the 90 items under 964 are subject to the following conditions:

Release of the shipment subject to prior CB approval shipments also should be effected (bill of lading date) on or before 31 January 1984;

only producer firms with records of importations before the date of Circular No 964 will be allowed to import for their end use requirement, and

whenever applicable, the existing requirements for permits, clearances, certification, etc. from government agencies concerned on such importations shall remain in force.

Pre-Payments--As a support to Circulars No 963 and No 964 the CB issued MAAB No 50 allowing authorized agent banks to accept pre-payments in U.S. dollars or in any foreign currency eligible for international reserves for import letters of credit covering essential producer items for domestic use and import requirements for reexport products.

MAAB No 50, dated 25 October, provides that whenever applicable the existing requirement for permits, clearances, certifications, etc. from other government agencies concerned for such importations will also remain in force.

Circular No 965 prescribes new regulations on foreign exchange spot buying and selling rate of authorized agent banks.

This new regulation, which was adopted on request of BAP, are intended to allow banks to increase their buying and selling rates of foreign exchange from the public without departing from the guiding rate concept.

Under Circular No 965, the minimum buying rate of authorized agent banks for spot transactions is 1 percent below the prevailing guiding rate while the maximum buying rate is the guiding rate at the date of negotiations.

On the other hand, the new prescribed minimum selling rate for spot transactions is 1 percent above the prevailing guiding rate while the maximum selling rate is 1.75 percent above the prevailing guiding rate.

Previously, the minimum buying rate was 1 percent below the guiding rate while the maximum rate was 0.5 percent below the guiding rate. The previous selling rates were a minimum of 0.75 percent above the guiding rate and a maximum of 1.25 percent above the guiding rate.

CSO: 4200/158

PHILIPPINES

CENTRAL BANK ON FLOATING OF PESO EXCHANGE RATE

HK100109 Manila Far East Broadcasting Company in English 2330 GMT 9 Nov 83

[Text] The peso exchange rate will be floated according to supply and demand, and depreciated further when necessary. This is learned from an aide memoire prepared by the Central Bank. The bank said the floating of the peso exchange rate is on top of a six-point economic adjustment process to be undertaken in implementing a financial restructuring scheme.

The restructuring plan was formulated by the advisory committee of the major bank creditors of the country. The plan, aside from the floating of the peso exchange rate, includes limitation of capital-intensive projects to those that can be supported by foreign trade earnings; a moderated credit growth; low government budgetary deficits; maintenance of interest rates at actual levels; encouraging savings; and maintenance of foreign borrowings at a low level with long maturity structure.

Meanwhile negotiations between monetary officials and a team of International Monetary Fund officials on the Philippine request for a standby credit of \$605 million were completed yesterday. This was announced last night by Prime Minister Cesar Virata. The tentative agreement, according to the prime minister, would now go to higher management of the multi-lateral financial institution. Virata said that the higher management would be the investment committee and the executive board of the IMF. The \$605 million IMF assistance being sought by the government includes the \$450 million standby of credit for 1984 and the \$200 million [word indistinct] spent portion of the standby loan obtained by the country from the financing institution this year [figures as heard].

CSO: 4200/158

PHILIPPINES

TWO ARMY BATTALIONS TO HELP CONTAIN DEMONSTRATIONS

0W070609 Hong Kong AFP in English 0544 GMT 7 Nov 83

[Text] Manila, 7 November (AFP)--Two Philippine Army Ranger and Infantry Battalions have been pulled out of combat areas to help contain expected demonstrations here, the English-language METRO MANILA TIMES reported today.

Army spokesmen could not be reached to confirm the daily's main story, which said the battalions were fresh from anti-insurgency campaigns in the central island of Samar and Mindanao, the country's second largest island.

The daily quoted the army chief, Major General Josephus Ramas, as saying that the soldiers would first be trained in civil disturbance control, followed by anti-urban guerrilla tactics. The general reportedly said the soldiers would not carry firearms when assigned to contain rallies.

Scores of generally peaceful anti-government demonstrations have been held nationwide since the still-unsolved 21 August murder of top opposition leader Benigno Aquino at Manila Airport while under military custody.

At least 12 people, including 3 government men, were killed in violent clashes near the presidential palace here on 31 August, when a student was shot dead after Mr Aquino's funeral, and on 21 September, when 11 were officially reported killed.

Opposition groups plan more protests for 27 November when Mr Aquino would have turned 51.

CSO: 4200/158

COLUMNISTS VIEW MILITARY PLEDGE TO RESPECT CIVIL RULE

'So Where's the Guarantee?'

HK091558 Manila BUSINESS DAY in English 9 Nov 83 p 4

[*"My Cup of Tea"* Column by Ninez Cacho-Olivares: "Day of the Generals"]

[Text] Friday last week, the civilian supremos and the generals came together and had their pictures splashed all over media. Mr Marcos, presiding over a joint meeting between his Cabinet and the Executive Committee, had the military top brass sit in and listen to policy decisions--so say the reports.

Reading the reports, it seemed that the civvies in attendance found nothing irregular in having the military over for a policy hear-in during peace time. There were, of course, some opposition leaders who thought it just wasn't cricket for the generals to be included in such a policy-making meeting. Others just shrugged the whole thing off, noting that the military and the administration men are good, solid and loyal friends of long-standing. The more naive observers felt it was wrong for the generals to sit in. I gathered they believed that the role of military men is not to listen in nor to question why. Theirs is just to do and die.

Come to think of it, death did get into the picture. During that same meeting, military officers told newsmen that they would defend civilian rule "to the death." There was also a guarantee from the military that "there is not a single thought of any military man taking over the civilian government or of any coup d'etat."

Brushing aside the fact that military leaders are not psychics or mind-readers, one wonders how anyone--civilian or military--can give the people a guarantee of civilian supremacy over military authority.

A coup d'etat comes in many forms. An original nineteenth-century Spanish version of a golpe de estado was known as the pronunciamiento. It is, or was, during that century, highly ritualized process. Edward Luttwak, an author who took time out to research different types of coups, says that in the pronunciamiento, the ritual process was performed thus: "First came the trabajos (literally the 'works') in which the opinions of army officers were sounded.

The next step was the compromisos, in which commitments were made and rewards promised; then came the call for action and finally, the appeal to the troops to follow their officers in rebellion against the government."

If we go by the paper submitted by Carolina Hernandez, a political scientist from the University of the Philippines, it would appear that the Philippines had a pronunciamiento—of sorts. According to Ms Hernandez, Mr Marcos, before imposing martial law, consulted with leading military officers as well as with the defense secretary (the trabaios). The supporters, called the Twelve Disciples, included Minister Enrile, defense chief, the AFP [Armed Forces of the Phillipines] chief of staff and others. The same report says that many supporters remained in their posts even after the time for compulsory retirement came around. Even some of the retired ones are occupying managerial positions both in government and private enterprises.

The military, after martial law was proclaimed, expanded its role. Hernandez noted that the military became highly visible in the peace and order scene, was also in the judicial scene, had a greater management, administrative and development role and even assumed a new political role (the compromisos?).

It is to be remembered that Mr Marcos, a one-time major, created a new structure of government. As Mr Marcos himself put it: "Of all the established forms of government, democracy is the only one which recognizes the inherent right of the people to 'cast out' their rulers, change their policy or effect radical reforms in their system of government or institutions by force or general uprising, when the legal and constitutional methods of making such changes have proved inadequate or so obstructed as to be unavailable."

Today, the military is still highly visible. As a matter of fact, some high-ranking officers get more media publicity than the movie stars. Aside from the fact that they have become celebrities, so to speak, the entire armed forces have expanded in size, budget, privileges and responsibility.

It can be argued that while the military enjoys all the perks, civilian supremacy still reigns. Perhaps. It is well-known that the military always claims supreme loyalty to the Republic. It is also well-known that in a country where a premium is placed on utang na loob, or the debt of gratitude, supreme loyalty may mean loyalty to an individual. Which individual is a different matter altogether.

There are some sectors that claim a coup d'etat in the Philippines will never come about. History and tradition will bear out this argument. But traditionally and historically also, after the proclamation of Philippine Independence, no Filipino president, except Ferdinand E. Marcos, ever proclaimed martial law.

There's always a first time, you know. So where's the guarantee?

Pledge 'Reassuring,' But...

HK091404 Manila METRO MANILA TIMES in English 9 Nov 83 p 4

["Past and Present" Column by Renato Cayetano: "Civilian Supremacy"]

[Text] The newspapers last Saturday carried reports that the Armed Forces of the Philippines led by the Chief of Staff had assured the president and the people that it would obey and respect civilian supremacy over the military. This pronouncement is not only reassuring but also unprecedented in the annals of the political history of the country.

As everyone knows, the reason for this pronouncement is the current public discussion about presidential succession and what role, if any, would the military play. The latest declaration by the president that the prime minister would exercise the presidential power in the event of his death or disability to discharge his functions did not, unfortunately, end the public debate. On the contrary, it ignited another controversy as to the proper and constitutional role of the Prime Minister, and highlighted coincidentally the place of the military in public affairs.

Civilian supremacy over the military is derived from the express provisions of the Constitution that the "civilian authority is at all times supreme over the military." This constitutional fiat is reinforced by other constitutional provisions which provide that the president is the commander-in-chief of all armed forces of the Philippines and which empower the president to appoint the officers of the armed forces of the Phillipines from the ranks of brigadier general or commodore. These constitutional provisions obviously seek to guarantee civilian supremacy over the military.

There is no gain saying that the power and the role of the military have greatly expanded since the imposition of martial law. Whereas before the military was traditionally keepers of the peace and order, it has now become a junior (if not a full) partner of the civilian authority in many other aspects of government.

Proof of this is that there are now many incumbent and retired officers of the military that are performing purely civilian jobs. Not that these officers are not qualified or capable (in many cases, their qualifications and competence exceed those of their counterparts in the civil service); but their continued employment in non-military positions is a constant reminder to the public of the greater participation that the military has assumed in purely civilian affairs.

The assurance made by the military hierarchy before the president and the people is welcome. But beyond these assurances, certain concrete steps must be taken by the political leaders to ensure the supremacy of civilian rule. Some of these steps have already been undertaken; like, for instance, the announcement that military officers holding civilian posts will be recalled. Obviously, other means have to be found.

For instance, a return of the provision in the 1935 Constitution which would require that the appointment by the president of military officers be with the consent and confirmation of the Batasan should be looked into. This particular provision would definitely reinforce and strengthen the principle of civilian supremacy over the military since the military would be responsible not only to the president but also to the elected representatives of the people. This is one agenda that could be included in the proposed amendments to the 1973 Constitution.

CSO: 4200/160

PHILIPPINES

JEEPNEY DRIVERS ASK IMELDA NOT TO QUIT

HK090147 Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 8 Nov 83 pp 1, 8

[Excerpts] Some 70,000 jeepney drivers in Metro Manila asked the first lady, Gov Imelda R. Marcos yesterday to reconsider her earlier announcement to resign from all her government posts to devote more time to the private sector.

The drivers, headed by Pasang Masda president, Oscar Lazaro, reminded the first lady that it was President Marcos and herself who raised the standard of living of jeepney drivers.

The drivers made their appeal to the first lady in rallies in various parts of Metro Manila which were also attended by their wives during simple ceremonies marking the eighth anniversary of the Metro Manila Commission.

In response, Mrs Marcos assured the drivers that nothing would be left undone for their sake and those of the citizenry.

The first lady told them that as long as President Marcos is the president, she would see to it that the poor are given their due share in terms of government assistance whether she holds any government position or not.

The government, according to Mrs Marcos, will stand by those who are willing to help themselves, especially the poor, reminding them to maintain their dialogue with the government, saying that it is only through this medium that solutions to their problems can be dealt with by the government.

She also assured them of reasonable adjustments whenever there is an increase in the price of petroleum.

CSO: 4200/160

PHILIPPINES

BRIEFS

JAPANESE TUNA FISHING RESTRICTIONS--The federal government has placed further restrictions on Japanese tuna fishing operations in Australian waters. In a new tuna longline agreement announced today by the minister for primary industry, Mr Kerin, Japanese longline fishermen operating off the central north coast of New South Wales have been excluded from an area between Smoky Cape and Sydney. Mr Kerin said the agreement would come into effect on 1 November. He said in addition to the new restrictions, the agreement meant a substantial increase in access fees paid by the Japanese fishermen. The government has also introduced interim measures to monitor and control catches of southern blue fin tuna in Australian waters. [Text] [BK081724 Melbourne Overseas Service in English 0830 GMT 7 Oct 83]

NEW PARTY OPPOSES U.S. SUPPORT--A 4-hour rally was held this afternoon at the Araneta Coliseum by the newly-formed Nationalist Alliance, formally organized yesterday with nationalist former senator Lorenzo Tanada among the organizers. Speakers in this afternoon's rally denounced what they called the U.S. backing of the Marcos administration and called for the dismantling of the U.S. bases here, the release of political prisoners, nationalization of foreign-owned basic industries, and cancellation of old foreign loans. The new group calls itself the Nationalist Alliance for Justice, Freedom and Democracy, a coalition of labor, professional, church, student, and opposition groups. [Text] [W051225 Quezon City RPN Television Network in English 1100 GMT 5 Nov 83]

NO FOREIGN EXCHANGE NATIONALIZATION--The government's directive for all banks to turn in their foreign exchange receipts to the Central Bank will ease the flow of foreign currencies to vital industries. This explanation comes from Prime Minister Cesar Virata, who has denied speculations that there is a nationalization of the foreign exchange component of the commercial banking system. According to Virata, commercial banks have been quite slow in turning over their foreign exchange receipts to the Central Bank. This, despite a previous order requiring commercial banks to surrender 80 percent of their foreign exchange receipts to the Central Bank. In the same news conference, Virata said arrangements were being made between local oil firms and their mother companies to assure the continuous flow of oil into the Philippines. Under the arrangement, local oil firms will ask to tap possible credits available from their mother companies and suppliers. Virata said the country's present oil inventories could last for 2 months. The government decided to cut down on its oil inventories to trim down expenses in maintaining such a huge oil stockpile. [Text] [W051241 Quezon City RPN Television Network in English 1100 GMT 5 Nov 83]

LABOR GROUPS PLAN 'MASS LEAVE'--Some 20,000 administrative and non-teaching personnel of the Ministry of Education are poised to go on a mass leave of absence starting 16 November to demand salary increases. The employees want their salaries increased from the current 553 pesos monthly to 1,200 pesos. They said their pay is miserably low in comparison with the teaching personnel of the ministry. They also said they have been left out in the grant of pay hikes to teachers. In other developments, the Kilusang Mayo Uno Labor Center threatened to hold next week a 2-day nationwide mass leave to protest low wages and alleged continued repression of workers' rights. The Trade Union Congress of the Philippines was reported also planning mass action to protest what it described as a meager wage increase granted last Monday. Faculty members of five state universities and colleges were reported also planning protest action to press their demand for a basic pay of 1,553 pesos monthly. [Text] [HK100117 Manila Far East Broadcasting Company in English 2330 GMT 9 Nov 83]

NPA SUPPORTERS TAKE OATHS--Seven hundred NPA supporters in Barangays (Sanlouis), (Malikbok), and Bukidnon have taken their oaths of allegiance to the New Republic. The occasion was attended by military and civilian officials. Details from (Monabo Hain) at the Philippine Army Civil Relations and Information Office. [Begin recording] Mayor (Francisco Imata) of [word indistinct] town appealed to the once misguided group to remain loyal and cooperate with the national leadership and never be lured again to the deceitful approaches of the foreign ideologue and subjugated by the rebels. Lt Col (Mose Dusmin), commander of the 7th [word indistinct] Ranger Battalion, officiated the said oath-taking. [End recording] [Text] [HK091246 Quezon City Maharlika Broadcasting System in English 0400 GMT 9 Nov 83]

CSO: 4200/158

LOCAL ATTITUDES ON LAOS, NATIONAL LEVEL POLICY CONTRASTED

Bangkok MATICHON SUT SAPPADA in Thai 2 Oct 83 pp 7, 8

[Article: "The Thai-Lao Split, a Wound That Must Be Washed"]

[Text] Ever since Laos changed its administration and became the Lao People's Democratic Republic in 1975, Laos has carried on a policy and maintained an attitude of leaning toward the Soviet Union and Vietnam. This has resulted in frequent border incidents with Thailand along the Mekong River, and Thailand has had to adjust its policy and attitude toward Laos. Contacts that once existed have been cut back or ceased to exist altogether and activities that both sides participated in have declined or been forbidden entirely.

However, it seems that it is difficult to erase the image or sign of being fraternal countries. Even though Thailand has ordered some border points closed because of these effects, people continue to cross back and forth to visit each other as usual, which is considered to be an ancient tradition.

Anyone who visits the Mekong River border in Loei Province will see people from both sides easily crossing back and forth to trade and barter goods. At the same time, in Nakhon Phanom Province, recently, things have become depressed and contact is made mainly in the form of smuggling.

It is said that forbidding people to go see each other goes against nature and is the same as trying to forbid living things from breathing.

"How can this be forbidden? The Thai and Lao peoples share a common lineage," said a villager who lives along the Mekong River in Nakhon Phanom Province. He added that even Lao soldiers in the Revolutionary Army have relatives here. Because when Thailand and Laos still had good relations, Thai men went and married Lao women and they had children. These Lao soldiers are the children. Thai men took this opportunity to settle down there, especially along the border with Nakhon Phanom Province. Thus, the fraternal relationship between the people on the two sides cannot be severed.

When relatives or merchants cross the Mekong river they usually bring along various goods to give to each other or to exchange for other goods. However, the things that the Lao people lack are consumer goods, particularly seasoning powder. Statistics of the Foreign Trade Department show that during the period January-August 1983, 243.94 tons of goods were sent to Laos. And approximately 10,000 bicycles were sent to them.

Because Laos is surrounded by other countries and is thus a landlocked country with no seaports, Laos is at a great disadvantage. Also, in the eyes of most people, Laos has not developed as much as it should have. Some people have even asserted that as long as Laos holds to its present political and foreign policy, it will never make any progress like other countries.

"I have questioned Lao people who have crossed over to our side. We have given them help and support. They have said that their manner of living is very rural in nature. Comparing our two countries, at present, Laos is about 40-50 years behind us in development," said Mr Wirawon Sitthitham, a Social Action Party MP from Nakhon Phanom who lives right next to Laos and who visited Laos as a member of the House Foreign Affairs Subcommittee 2 months ago, to MATICHON SUT SAPPADA. He stressed that "what can be confirmed is that even since they changed administrations about 8 years ago, their economic situation has not improved at all."

A news source in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs said that the present standard of living of the Lao people is better as compared with that just after the change of administration. The government has granted rights and freedoms. Those who live on the land are granted ownership of the land. People can barter and trade with each other with the government overseeing things. The state sets the prices for all goods except for those sold on the black market, which the state cannot control.

"The thing that Laos is most troubled by at present is that in their contacts with the socialist countries, they feel that they are being taken advantage of by the larger countries such as Vietnam and other socialist countries. For example, a tax is collected on goods that are sent through Vietnamese ports. Laos feels constricted. Besides this, on the return to Vietnam, they take materials belonging to Laos using their political and administrative influence. Thus, Laos is turning to us," said Mr Wirawon Sitthitham. He added that even Thai diplomats in Vientiane feel that we will have an opportunity to restore friendly relations to what they used to be, especially concerning the help that we cut off.

But it seems that this appeal will just drift with the wind because the senior Thai leaders concerned still feel that national security is more important than the economic benefit to be derived from Laos.

Because Thailand and Laos are separated only by the Mekong River, not only is it easy for people to cross back and forth but it is easy for the mass media, such as radio and television, to transmit broadcasts from Thailand to Laos.

Even though Thais can receive radio broadcasts from Laos, few people are interested in listening to these broadcasts since the programs are not as interesting as those in Thailand. What is strange is that the Lao people love country music just as much as the Thais, especially the songs of Sayan Sanya and Phumphuang Duangchan. It's common to see young Lao men and women along the banks of the Mekong River humming these songs.

As for television, the Lao people can receive color television channel 7 since transmission has been improved by using satellite communications. On the other hand, television channel 5 in Khon Kaen, which belongs to the government, has not been improved.

"They have a law prohibiting people from watching our television programs. but that is a prohibition in law only. Even Lao leaders watch our programs," said Mr Wirawon.

"Do you know, Mr Kayson Phomvihan, the prime minister of Laos, has said that he learns what is going on in Thailand in Thai administrative and government circles by watching television and listening to the news from Thailand. He has forbidden the sale of Thai newspapers. But administrators in Vientiane read our newspapers," added an MP from Nong Khai.

What has happened frequently ever since Laos changed its administrative system is that disputes have arisen concerning intrusions across the Mekong River. Such incidents have led to clashes, and several MROU sailors, who are responsible for protecting our territorial waters there, have been killed. At the same time, Thai citizens who make their living as fishermen have been arrested by Lao soldiers. It isn't known what happened to them. Local Thai officials have said in interviews that they sent notes to Lao officials, but that is the only thing known.

Besides this, it is well known that in all the border provinces of the country, the smuggling activities carried on by the influential merchants and capitalists who cooperate with corrupt officials have reached epidemic proportions and made these people very wealthy. The government has not been able to solve this problem.

Thus, the question is, during the past period, has the government's foreign policy in handling Thai-Lao relations been correct and just or not? Thus, this is something that the government should consider. Wouldn't it be better to establish relations that would better serve the interests of the country and people than those at present? This is something that must be given careful and continuous consideration. The problems must not be ignored to the point where they become difficult to solve.

Or will these problems be ignored? Will the influential merchants and capitalists and corrupt officials be allowed to become wealthy from the suffering of the people? And will the split between [Thailand] and neighboring countries be allowed to grow even wider? These are things that should not be allowed to happen.

11943

CSO: 4207/15

CABINET VIEWS PROPOSAL TO SPLIT MILITARY RANKS, SALARY

Bangkok MATICHON in Thai 5 Oct 83 pp 1, 16

[Article: Proposal On Splitting Military Ranks From Salaries to Be Submitted to the Cabinet For Consideration"]

[Text] Preparations are being made to submit a draft law to the cabinet on splitting military ranks from salaries and allowing salaries to rise without regard to levels. This will be submitted to the cabinet before it is submitted to parliament for approval.

Air Chief Marshal Phanieng Kantarat, the deputy minister of defense, answered reporters' questions on the matter of separating the ranks and salaries of military personnel. He said that in the military, rank is important as far as administration and command is concerned. But if salary ranks do not rise, there won't be rates. Thus, people have come up with the idea of separating rank from salary. People will rise in rank in stages, but their salary can rise without being tied to their rank. These will be separated by amending the Military Act.

When a reporter asked whether action would be taken on this, Air Chief Marshal Phanieng replied that at present, the matter has been sent to the Royal Decree Committee for discussion. The problem is that in correcting this, some government officials feel somewhat dissatisfied. That is, non-commissioned officers are dissatisfied because they will be held back at a particular rank or level for too long. For this reason, in his position as the minister of defense, General Prem Tinsulanon, the prime minister, has considered whether making this change would be good or not. The matter was reviewed once, and General Prem has ordered that it be reviewed again. If it is found that this is a good idea, the matter will be submitted to the cabinet for consideration and then presented to the House of Representatives to make it a law.

"There will be a conference for the officials concerned next week. This will be the last time. There shouldn't be any problems on the specifics. The prime minister wants everyone to feel satisfied. Once things are explained, everyone will be happy," said Air Chief Marshal Phanieng. And he said that doing things this way will not cost any more. This is just a matter of stipulating a new regulation that will benefit all groups,

including non-commissioned officers. The only ones who will experience problems are officers with the rank of major and lieutenant colonel, who will have to remain at these levels for a long time. Otherwise, people would rise from sub-lieutenant to colonel very quickly and no one would have an immediate superior.

"Everyone would be a colonel. In a unit, there would not be anyone to carry out the tasks. However, the time it takes to rise from sub-lieutenant to general will remain as before. That is, at the beginning and end, the time it takes to get promoted will be shortened somewhat. But the middle period will be extended," said Air Chief Marshal Phanieng. And he repeated that General Prem has approved this in principle. Also, the matter has already been considered by the Defense Council. It is thought that this change will definitely benefit non-commissioned and commissioned officers alike.

11943
CSO: 4207/15

THAILAND

IRREGULAR STRENGTH REPORTED, ARMY RESERVE MISSION TO EXPAND

Bangkok MATUPHUM in Thai 29 Sep 83 pp 1, 12

[Article: Army Shows Interest In Thahan Phran Irregular Heroes, Arms Reserve Divisions"]

[Text] The army is making plans to aid 14,000 thahan phran irregulars. After they have completed their main task, they will be transformed into reservists for national defense and will be registered with a reserve division. Since 1978, 500 thahan phran irregulars have been killed and 10,000 have been disabled. Director Suchinda has said that the army has already formed four reserve divisions. The goal is to be able to mobilize the reservists within 2 days.

On the afternoon of 28 September at the Army Headquarters conference hall, Lieutenant General Mana Rattanakosot, the assistant army chief of staff for civil affairs, chaired a conference on finding money for the welfare fund for thahan phran irregulars and their families. Lieutenant General Mana discussed the background of the thahan phran irregulars. He said that they were formed in 1978. The communist terrorist situation along the Thai-Kampuchean border was so serious that the communist terrorists were able to wage operations against the government in all areas using battalion-size forces. They organized the masses and stressed operations in the area separating the first and second army areas. Their goal was to gain influence over Chanthaburi and Trat provinces.

The assistant chief of staff for civil affairs also said that at that time, the government did not have sufficient combat forces to suppress the communist terrorists and so it had to withdraw some main-force units that were defending the country along the Thai-Kampuchean border. Thus, the army felt that a paramilitary force should be established in the form of a special volunteer unit in order to make up for the forces lacking. Plans for a paramilitary combat unit were drafted and presented to Supreme Command Headquarters. On 15 June 1978, permission was granted to implement things in accord with the Thai-Kampuchean Border Thahan Phran Irregular Special Operations Program. The code name for this was "Program 513." There were 48 main-force troops and 1,008 volunteers. Finally, the cabinet gave its approval on 18 July 1978.

Lieutenant General Mana said that now the thahan phran irregulars have grown and are a large force. They are playing a great role in helping the government eliminate local influential people by watching things and guiding officials in to suppress those activities that are destroying the security of the nation.

Concerning the organization of the thahan phran irregulars, Colonel Pramot Limsila, the head of the Planning and Training Division, said that these forces are divided into five major units: 1. The thahan phran irregular special operations unit of the First Army Area. This is composed of five regiments and 28 companies, with a total of 1,836 men. 2. The thahan phran irregular special operations unit of the Second Army Area. This is composed of nine regiments and 52 companies, with a total of 337 men. 3. The thahan phran irregular special operations unit of the Third Army Area. This is composed of 11 regiments and 53 companies, with a total of 3,380 men. 4. The thahan phran irregular special operations unit of the Fourth Army Area. This is composed of seven regiments and 34 companies. 5. The thahan phran special operations unit of the army, or the Pak Thong Chai Attack Irregulars or the 513 Guard and Coordination Unit, which can operate anywhere in the country. It is composed of five regiments and 32 companies.

Based on these details, Colonel Pramot summarized by saying that at present, the thahan phran irregulars have a force of 14,126 men. As for losses, if a thahan phran irregular is killed, [his family] will receive approximately 30,000 baht in compensation. Based on their signing a contract, thahan phran irregulars receive a monthly income of 1,255-1,695 baht and a cost of living allowance of only 270 baht. Thus, it is essential to have a thahan phran irregular fund to help the irregulars, who are employees of the army. [To date], 500 thahan phran irregulars have been killed and 1,000 are disabled.

Following that, Colonel Chatchaloem Lekwanitthamwithak, the commander of the thahan phran irregular unit of the army, said that at present, the thahan phran irregulars have become a development unit. Thahan phran irregulars help develop villages as discussed by army project officials. Besides this, last year, the thahan phran irregulars formed the Santi Nimit Unit in order to defeat the communists in the plains areas.

Colonel Chatchaloem said that in the future after the struggle against the communist terrorists has ended, the thahan phran irregulars will be transformed into Reserves for National Defense (R.N.C.). Besides this, concerning the reserve forces of the army, reserve divisions have been formed and all thahan phran irregulars are registered with the reserve divisions, which are subordinate to the Reserve Affairs Department. This would immediately transform them into reservists and enable the country to be prepared for battle if the reserve division was mobilized.

However, even though the communist terrorist suppression activities will decline, the thahan phran irregulars will still have tasks to carry out

in defending the country. Thahan phran irregulars will be stationed all along the country's borders to reinforce the army's main-force units, which are undermanned.

Major General Subhinda Khraprayun, the director of operations, told MATUPHUM that the army will develop the idea that forming regular forces is wasteful. Thus, it will try to limit the size of the regular forces as much as possible. These forces will be used to defend the border and protect the nation's sovereignty until the reserve forces are ready to take over. The country that has done the best job in organizing its military in this way is Israel. Israel's reserves can be mobilized immediately whenever they are needed. And everyone knows his duty. When they are called up, they know where to go, they know which unit they belong to and they know what their duties and responsibilities are.

Major Suchinda said that in Thailand, action has been taken in accord with this idea. Four reserve divisions have been formed, that is, the 11th, 12th, 15th and 16th divisions. But according to the plans for developing the military, two more reserve divisions will be formed within the next 3 years.

As for the time it now takes to mobilize reservists, the director of operations said that the reserve units now in existence can be mobilized within 30 days. This must be reduced to 15 days and then to just 1 week. Or it must be possible to mobilize some units in 15 days and then increase the forces gradually.

A news source in the Directorate of Operations said that the 11th, 12th 15th and 16th reserve divisions that have been formed will carry on training activities. The target for the future is to be able to mobilize the reservists within 48 hours. And in the future, except for the special combat units, it will no longer be necessary to form any additional infantry divisions. Thailand will have reserve divisions to serve as the standard in organizing the military.

As for the two additional reserve divisions to be formed, it is thought that these will be stationed in the Third Army Area since this is the only army area that does not have a reserve division. These will help guard against threats in the west in accord with the thinking of Lieutenant General Chawalit Yongchaiyut, the assistant army chief of staff for operations.

11943
CSO: 4207/15

THAILAND

NAVY CHIEF OF STAFF DISCUSSES FORCE MODERNIZATION, INTER-SERVICE DISPUTES

Bangkok MATICHON in Thai 26 Sep 83 pp 4, 12

[Interview with Admiral Samak Saiwong, the chief of staff of the navy and deputy supreme commander (age 59, born on 26 January 1923): "Aircraft Carriers Are Not Suitable For Us"; date and place not specified]

[Excerpt] [Question] Concerning the matter of purchasing "covet" ships, was the fact that you and the RTN CINC disagreed on this the reason for your transfer this time?

[Answer] I don't think so. Because if he had given much thought to that, I probably would have found myself in a position much worse than this. Or I might have remained the deputy RTN CINC. If he held this against me and doubted or despised me for this, I would probably have remained deputy RTN CINC. Or I might have been transferred and made deputy undersecretary of the Ministry of Defense, which is a position for an ordinary general. But I have had a chance to take the position of a "field marshal" general.

[Question] Can it be said that this played a part in the deliberations?

[Answer] I don't think so. That dispute was not a major conflict. We have a lot of work to do. Sometimes, even a husband and wife cannot agree. But what is important is that once things have been discussed and agreed on, the chief of staff's duty is to carry out staff duties and act as an advisor. The chief of staff does not have any duties as far as taking responsibility is concerned. The person responsible is our superior officer. Our duty is to make recommendations and sometimes we may not see eye-to-eye. This does not happen often. But it is the right of the superior officer to make the decision. Once he makes a decision, his staff must go along with his decision. This is a general military principle.

[Question] You have been in the navy for a long time. Is there anything that requires much development?

[Answer] We are constantly developing things. You can see this from the fact that we have built up our combat forces and our combat support capabilities. We have a five-year plan that details what we will have in the

next 5 years. It details what types of ships and aircraft we will have. We have to have long-term programs and then amend them every year based on budgetary considerations. Because the five-year plans that we make are based on how much money we expect to receive every year. But when the actual budget is made, if changes have been made, our five-year program must be altered or revised accordingly.

Because of having long-term plans, the person who becomes RTN CINC later on will have concrete guidelines, or a path, for developing the navy. Making long-term plans will make it easier to carry out things. I do not think that there will be any problems. In particular, the new RTN CINC is an honest and strong person.

[Question] Concerning the important projects such as the purchase of a submarine, will these things be accomplished during the time of the new RTN CINC?

[Answer] No. Because he will serve for just 1 year. The submarine project, if it ever gets going, will not start before 1987. This will be a matter for future classes. But this does not mean that we can sit by idly today. We have sent a team to observe submarine activities throughout the world, and we have begun studying the matter.

[Question] In the long term, is there a possibility that the Royal Thai Navy will acquire an aircraft carrier?

[Answer] That would not be suitable. The important thing is that, concerning the area of the Gulf of Thailand where naval combat operations would take place, we do not think that such operations would take place too far outside the gulf. And the Gulf of Thailand is limited in size. Thus, using an aircraft carrier would not be fitting. Aircraft carriers are used in the open sea. Furthermore, the cost of purchasing an aircraft carrier would be very great--too great for us. The biggest ship that we should have is a frigate.

[Question] As for having an aircraft carrier, haven't people agreed for a long time that this would not be suitable for Thailand?

[Answer] It is well known in navy circles that having an aircraft carrier would not be suitable. Even if it was a shortened version that used Harrier aircraft, which do not need a long landing strip, this would still exceed what we should have.

[Question] What are the capabilities of the Royal Thai Navy like in relation to today's situation?

[Answer] As compared with [the forces] of those countries that we consider to be enemies, our naval forces are not cause for concern. What I think we should be worried about is our air forces. If they are able to use

their air forces in Kampuchea and use the air bases in Kampuchea, they will be able to operate throughout the Gulf of Thailand.

[Question] Concerning the amount of equipment and weapons that we have and the number of personnel presently on duty, do we have enough?

[Answer] If you are asking about our naval forces, I think we have enough. At present, even though we are economizing, which means that we are suffering from a man-power shortage because of a shortage of certain types of personnel, we are quickly producing things. We believe that our personnel are more knowledgeable and more capable. We send many navy personnel, including those who do not have a commission and engineers, to study abroad. We believe that our personnel are quite capable of using the modern weapons. A shortage of personnel is a normal matter.

[Question] Do many of today's officers still feel the same way as older officers after the political events and feel that the navy and air force are the minor branches that receive smaller budgets and fewer personnel?

[Answer] Concerning the budget, I feel that at present, the allotment of the budget is better. It's true that in the past during the period when there were conflicts and the Manhattan Rebellion occurred, the navy really was the inferior service. But later on, after I served as an assistant comptroller for a period, the government's budgetary allotments attached sufficient importance [to the navy]. As for there being a shortage of personnel, that is an issue in each service.

[Question] Even at present, it is still said that senior officers frequently hold conflicting views, particularly on political matters, and that this causes people to think that there are splits in the military. What is your view about this?

[Answer] I don't think it has reached the point of a split. Concerning the matter of there being splits, in some cases this is simply a result of the fact that things are freer today. Things have changed. In the past, senior officers who were not quite at the top did not dare express their own ideas or disagree. But now, things are very free. People are now given an opportunity to criticize things. Sometimes, it seems that people's personal opinions differ. But when people have a chance to sit down and discuss things with each other, I don't think there will be any problem.

Also, military men are highly disciplined. Everyone has to realize that when a person is appointed to a staff position, he is in an advisory position. But when a superior officer makes a decision, he bears the responsibility and his subordinates must act in accord with his decision. This is something that soldiers believe in strongly. Otherwise, we could not get along.

[Question] Certain events, particularly the events of 1 April 1981, have caused many cracks in the army and in Supreme Command Headquarters. During that period, did you experience any problems?

[Answer] At that time, I was the assistant chief of staff for operations. We didn't have any problems since the navy was united. By chance, before the RTN CINC at that time, Admiral Samut Sahanawin, made any decision, he listened to the opinion of the majority and did not make a decision by himself, which could have resulted in an error. Before deciding to take some action, he held a conference for officers of the rank of admiral to decide what position should be taken. We were very patient even though we were under great pressure. But we were patient. We were able to survive because we agreed that whatever happened would not be too important. [We felt that] for some people the results might turn out negative and many people might have to resign. But the navy would survive. We felt that the navy would survive and that it would not split apart as happened after the Manhattan affair.

11943
CSO: 4207/15

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE AND AID

LE DUAN GREETS PORTUGUESE COMMUNIST PARTY LEADER

OW091818 Hanoi VNA in English 1524 GMT 9 Nov 83

[Text] Hanoi, VNA, 9 November--Le Duan, general secretary of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee, today sent his best wishes to his Portuguese counterpart, Alvaro Cunhal, on his 70th birthday.

The message says: "Your name has, for decades, been associated with the staunch struggle of the working class and labouring people of Portugal against the dictatorial regime and reactionary forces, for the people's life, democracy and social progress, and for the national independence of Portuguese colonies."

"Today, the Communist Party of Portugal under your leadership is promoting and firmly defending the gains of the April 1974 revolution, becoming an indispensable factor in the political life of Portugal, and actively contributing to the common struggle of the world working class and communist movement for peace, national independence, democracy and socialism.

"May the Communist Party of Portugal win further successes in its revolutionary struggle.

"On this occasion, we sincerely thank the CPV and you yourself for the fine sentiments and warm support to our party and people in the national liberation struggle in the past and in the national construction and defence at present.
[sentence as received]

"I wish you good health to successfully fulfill your noble mission.

"May the solidarity and friendship between our two parties and peoples further consolidate and develop."

CSO: 4200/159

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE AND AID

SONG BE PROVINCE MARKS COSR, SRV-USSR TREATY

OW072048 Hanoi VNA in English 1608 GMT 7 Nov 83

[Text] Hanoi, VNA, 7 November--A meeting was held yesterday in Song Be Province, northwest of Ho Chi Minh City, to mark the fifth anniversary of the signing of the Vietnam-USSR Treaty of Friendship and Cooperation, and the 66th anniversary of the October Socialist Revolution.

It was attended by nearly 10,000 people of all strata and many Soviet experts working in the province.

Addressing the meeting, Nguyen Van Luong, secretary of the Provincial Party Committee, exalted the Soviet people's splendid achievements over the past 66 years in building developed socialism and in paving the way for advancing to communism.

He brought out the important significance of the treaty of friendship and co-operation between Vietnam and the Soviet Union.

The meeting adopted a resolution warmly welcoming the 28 September 1983 statement and the 27 October 1983 address by Soviet Party General Secretary Yuri Andropov and affirming the close solidarity of the people in the province with the fraternal peoples of Grenada and Nicaragua.

The resolution protested against the United States' deployment of medium-range nuclear missiles in Western Europe and condemned the U.S. invasion of Grenada and its threat of aggression against Nicaragua.

The meeting wound up with a demonstration with people shouting: U.S. imperialism, get out of Grenada exclaim, "hands off Nicaragua and Cuba!"

CSO: 4200/159

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE AND AID

SOVIET GROUP ATTENDS GENERATOR'S INAUGURATION

0W040045 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 30 Oct 83

[Excerpts] At a time when our entire country is jubilantly greeting the historical events of the 5th anniversary of the signing of the Vietnamese-Soviet treaty of friendship and cooperation and the 60th anniversary of the October Revolution and is striving to record many achievements on the production and work front in connection with the Vietnam-Soviet friendship month, this morning, 30 October, more than 10,000 Vietnamese workers and cadres and, experts at the Pha Lai Thermal Power Plant construction site held a grand meeting to greet the visiting Soviet party-government delegation and to officially commission generator Unit No 1. It can be said that this is one of the most magnificent flowers manifesting Vietnamese-Soviet friendship and cooperation which marks the 66th anniversary of the October Revolution this year and the 5th anniversary of the signing by the parties and governments of the two countries of the important historic document that ushered in a new turning point in the relations of cooperation and friendship between Vietnam and the Soviet Union.

This morning, 30 October, the Soviet party and government delegation visited the construction site and joined us in attending the ceremony to commission Generator Unit No 1 of the Pha Lai Thermal Power Plant. The thermal power plant construction site was resplendent with flags and flowers. By the side of the tall chimney that rose up in the sky of Pha Lai were the flags of Vietnam and the Soviet Union fluttering in the morning wind.

Attending the meeting to witness this historic event were nearly 20,000 Vietnamese workers and cadres and Soviet experts, representing 23 units which participated in the work at the construction site, and representatives of various ministries and services of the central government and various provinces. In addition, there were many domestic and foreign press, radio, and television correspondents.

After the opening speech by Comrade Pham Khai, minister of power, Comrade Phan Ngoc Tuong, minister of construction, on behalf of Vietnam's power and construction sectors, voiced the gratitude of the Vietnamese workers and cadres at the construction site to the Soviet party and government. On behalf of the 20,000 workers and cadres at the construction site, he reported on the achievements registered during the past 3 years and more and affirmed the lasting friendship and disinterested and pure assistance of the Soviet party and state. He said:

"Generator Unit No 1 has been completed. However, Generator Units No 2, 3, and 4 require that we all make new efforts. We are confident that, with the assistance of the Soviet party and government and the precise guidance of the VCP Central Committee and the government, we will certainly complete all four generator units by the end of 1985. The Pha Lai Thermal Power Plant construction site will vie with the Hoa Binh Hydroelectric Plant construction site and the Tri An Hydroelectric Plant in carrying out the slogan 'electricity Leads by One Step,' thus creating conditions for our economy to develop, in order to satisfactorily implement the party's industrialization line and defend our socialist fatherland.

"Esteemed Comrade Aliyev, esteemed Comrade Do Muoi, esteemed guests, the presence of the Soviet and Vietnamese leaders today constitute an extremely great encouragement for all the builders at the construction site. Once again, from the bottom of our hearts, we sincerely thank Comrade Aliyev and those who accompany him and thank Comrade Do Muoi and other leaders of the Vietnamese government. We promise you that the Pha Lai Thermal Power Plant will be completed according to schedule and with high quality."

After Minister Phan Ngoc Tuong's speech, Comrade Ryzhkov, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, on behalf of the Soviet party and government delegation, thanked the workers and cadres at the construction site for their warm welcome and hailed the unshakable friendship between the peoples of the two countries. He said:

"Comrade Yuriy Vladimirovich Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, has asked us to convey to the builders of the Pha Lai Thermal Power Plant his warmest greetings.

"Our delegation is particularly pleased to perform this task at this solemn and happy moment for the construction site, the commissioning of the first generator unit of the biggest thermal power station in Vietnam. With your labor and talent, you have carried out a new step in the development of Soviet-Vietnamese economic cooperation and made a considerable contribution to the building of the material and technical base for socialism in Vietnam.

"The Vietnamese people are currently performing their national industrialization task, which is of key significance for the continued development of their fatherland. Power is very necessary for the hundreds of cities and villages, factories and plants, enterprises and farms, schools and scientific and medical agencies of Vietnam. Naturally, your country will clearly see the considerable contribution of the Pha Lai Thermal Power Plant to the energy problem."

At this morning's ceremony, Comrade Dang Ngoc Tung, director of the Pha Lai Thermal Power Plant, also spoke on behalf of the plant operators. He promised that generator Unit No 1 will reach its planned output, that there will be a smooth supply of power and that all plant equipment will be safe so as to prepare for the commissioning of Generator Units No 2 and 3.

After the grand meeting, the representatives of the two states visited the plant. Comrade Do Muoi and Comrade Aliyev cut the ribbon inaugurating Generator Unit No 1.

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE AND AID

SRV-USSR AGRICULTURAL ENGINEERING SCHOOL OPENS

OW071626 Hanoi VNA in English 1518 GMT 7 Nov 83

[Text] Hanoi, VNA, 7 November--The Ministry of Agriculture recently inaugurated the Vietnam-USSR Agricultural Engineering School in Tam Diep Town of Ha Nam Ninh Province, south of Hanoi, on the occasion of the month of Vietnam-USSR friendship.

This is one of the four vocational schools built and fully equipped by the Soviet Union for Vietnam's agricultural service.

Each course can train 850 students for a variety of jobs in agricultural engineering, such as tractor driving, truck and tractor repair, repair of internal combustion engines, turning, milling, planning, grinding, electric welding, electric installation at agricultural farms.

The school, covering an area of six hectares, consists of housing settlements, study and work quarters, a 400-seat auditorium and three workshops for practice.

In service of study and teaching, Soviet specialists together with Vietnamese teachers and students at the school restored more than 30 machines which had been discarded by production establishments.

Director Le Minh Cuong said:

"This is a project of the warm friendship, solidarity and all-round cooperation between Vietnam and the Soviet Union. As soon as construction began, the Soviet Union sent a group of specialists to help in the building and make necessary preparations for the first course."

Three hundred students of the first batch have graduated after a 2-year course held at the same time as construction was underway. Together with Soviet specialists they have joined the teaching staff and the school personnel in making 60 models and teaching aids which were highly valued at the exhibition of job-training equipment held in Hanoi recently. Today, the school can already assume all the teaching jobs to train technical and skilled workers for the agricultural mechanization of Vietnam.

CSO: 4200/159

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE AND AID

POSTAL SERVICE DEVELOPS WITH SOVIET AID

0W061211 Hanoi VNA in English 0712 GMT 6 Nov 83

[Text] Hanoi, VNA, 6 November--"The mutual assistance and cooperation between Vietnam and the Soviet Union in the postal field dated very early and have not ceased to grow and consolidate," wrote Pham Nien, general director of the Vietnam general department of post and telecommunications in an article in Nhan Dan recently.

The article was written in honour of the fifth anniversary of the Vietnam-USSR Treaty of Friendship and Cooperation (No 3) [as received] and the 66th anniversary of the great October Socialist Revolution.

He continued: "In the anti-French War (1946-1954), liaison between Vietnam and the Soviet Union was maintained in the form of exchange of books, newspapers, revolutionary documents and telegrams in spite of the enemy attempts to block it.

"Following the first Indochina War, an agreement on postal cooperation was signed on 26 December 1954, establishing a direct postal, telephone and telegram link between the two countries. At the same time, the Soviet Union became a medium to put Vietnam into contact with many other countries. In furtherance of this agreement, in 1957 the Soviet Union sent experts and equipment to Vietnam to help build and operate an ionospheric station aimed at controlling the transmission of radio waves and carrying out geo-physical and astro-physical research and research on Vietnam's air space.

"A few years later, the Soviet Union sent a radio transmitter of high capacity to strengthen Vietnam's transmitter station and other equipment to increase the capacity and quality of the telegraph, telephone and radio communications between Hanoi and Moscow.

"An agreement on postal cooperation between Vietnam and the Soviet Union to the governmental level was signed on 16 March 1972. When the central transmitter station of Vietnam was damaged by U.S. B52 bombings in December 1972, the Soviet Government sent a high-capacity transmitter to help restore Vietnam's telecommunication links with outside.

After Vietnam's complete victory over U.S. aggression, the countries in the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance (CMEA) firstly the Soviet Union, sent

urgent aid to help Vietnam strengthen, improve and develop its postal work. This includes the "hoa sen" (lotus) ground satellite communication station, a gift from the Soviet Party, government and people, a symbol of the new period of Vietnamese-Soviet postal cooperation.

"When the Chinese expansionists waged a war of aggression against Vietnam along its northern border and cut off Vietnam's railway link with outside, the Soviet Union helped Vietnam transport by sea postal parcels, books and newspapers from and to foreign countries. It decided to reduce by 50 per cent the transportation charges for air mail from Vietnam, thus helping the latter to expand by many times its postal exchanges with other countries.

"Since 1981, the Soviet Union has sent many more experts and communication spare parts to help Vietnam increase the capacity of its ionospheric station and the hoa sen ground satellite communication system. Together with Vietnamese specialists, they have conducted survey and planning for building the Hanoi-Quang Ninh symmetrical cable communication line, the Hanoi-Vinh coaxial cable and the Hanoi-Ho Chi Minh City broad-band microwave line. The Soviet Union also provided the scientific-technical institute under the Vietnamese general post office with teaching equipment.

The Soviet Union has since 1956 trained for the Vietnamese postal service hundreds of specialists, technical workers and managers, including 150 university graduates and post graduates. Since 1960, it has sent more than 150 experts to help Vietnam in the installation of new communication projects, and in operating equipment, as well as in planning postal development.

"The Soviet Union has also coordinated with Vietnam in conducting many important projects such as analyzing the ionosphere and the transmission of radio wave."

CSO: 4200/159

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE AND AID

CONSTRUCTION OF SOVIET-AIDED PROJECT DESCRIBED

0W061107 Hanoi VNA in English 0724 GMT 6 Nov 83

[Text] Hanoi, VNA, 5 Nov [date as received]--"We are proud of being those who are helping to speed up the electrification of Vietnam," said M. A. Tkalitch, Soviet expert working on the construction site of the Tri An hydro-electric power project, as he met VNA's correspondents on the construction site.

The Tri An hydro-electric power project built with Soviet assistance will be the biggest electric generation plant of the south. When completed, the plant with a capacity of almost 400 megawatts will double the electric output of the south. Besides, the project will provide water for almost 300,000 hectares of cultivable land, drain salty water and increase water supply for use in the dry season. With a water surface of 300 square kilometres, the reservoir of the project can serve as a fish rearing area with an annual output of 1,500 tons of fish. It will also be an attractive place for tourists.

Since March 1982, many important tasks have been completed thanks to great efforts made by both the Soviet and Vietnamese sides. Most noteworthy is the completion of the technical economic plan of the project with assistance from the hydrology institute of the USSR.

Asked on the relations between Soviet experts and their Vietnamese friends, V. I. Orlov, head of the Soviet experts' group at the construction site, said: "We respect views of points from both sides and try together to do our best to build the project."

He remarked: "Although faced with many difficulties, we have fulfilled well all our tasks. This shows our special concern for the project."

On the Tri An area in Dong Nai Province, northeast of Ho Chi Minh City, once a deserted and isolated area, more than 1,500 Soviet and Vietnamese engineers and workers are now living and working. They are focusing their efforts on basic survey and building work. Main roads, dwelling houses, offices, and electricity and water supply system and a post office are being built so that construction of the main projects will be started in early 1984.

Truong Ngoc An, an engineer graduated from the Soviet Union and now head of the managing committee of the project, shows us an emulation contract between the

Tri An hydro-electric power project and the Hoa Binh hydro-electric power project on the Da River in Northern Vietnam which is expected to produce electricity in 1987.

He said: I believed that with the wholehearted assistance of the Soviet experts and the devoted working spirit of Vietnamese cadres and workers, these two major projects symbolizing the close friendship and cooperation between Vietnam and the Soviet Union will be completed on schedule.

CSO: 4200/159

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE AND AID

SOVIET SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY ASSISTANCE DESCRIBED

OW051649 Hanoi VNA in English 1458 GMT 5 Nov 83

[Text] Hanoi, VNA, 5 November--The comprehensive cooperation between Vietnam and the Soviet Union finds a vivid expression in scientific and technological cooperation.

Professor Dang Huu, alternate member of the CPV Central Committee and chairman of the State Commission for Sciences and Technology, in an article for Nhan Dan, wrote:

"Since the signing of the Vietnam-USSR Treaty of Friendship and Cooperation 5 years ago, scientific and technical cooperation between the two countries has expanded to an extent as never seen before. The two sides have worked out many long-term cooperation programmes and joint research projects. In the second 5-year (1981-85) plan, the Vietnam Institute of Sciences and Commission for Social Sciences have signed with the USSR Academy of Sciences a cooperation programme covering 27 different subjects and 73 research projects, most noteworthy of which are the survey of Vietnam's botany, the survey of ecology and wildlife on the central highlands, the fundamental geological questions and biological and mineral laws and marine resources of Vietnam.

The two countries have approved a 5-year (1981-85) plan for scientific and technical cooperation which embraces 87 important projects covering 22 areas of the national economy: agriculture, heavy industry, consumer goods industry and export goods production. In the area of agriculture which comes first in the priority order, the Soviet Union has helped Vietnam focus its research on the rice plant with a view to selecting short-term rice strains resistant to pest and giving high yields. The cooperation also covers a program of research on the mechanisation of rice culture.

The professor also highlighted some outstanding results of their cooperation obtained in water conservancy, energy, engineering, metallurgy, communications and transport, light industry and public health in Vietnam. Particularly, he said, with Soviet assistance Vietnam has conducted several research projects on anti-erosion of metal and tropicalization of equipment and machine parts, and on tropical storms and floods.

Dang Huu noted that the establishment of mixed laboratories and experimental centres constitute an important milestone in the scientific and technical cooperation between the two countries.

The Soviet Union has also helped Vietnam install a scientific and technical information network, the professor went on. He added: every year, the Soviet Union has received from 500 to 700 Vietnamese scientific workers for further study and research at different colleges and institutes in the USSR. On the other hand, hundreds of Soviet specialists have been sent to Vietnam.

Another important domain of the Soviet assistance is the training of economic managerial cadres. An agreement to this effect was signed by the two governments in January 1982 under which thousands of Vietnamese cadres will be sent annually for further study in the Soviet Union.

CSO: 4200/159

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE AND AID

MINISTER WRITES ON SOVIET EDUCATIONAL AID

OW031938 Hanoi VNA in English 1534 GMT 3 Nov 83

[Text] Hanoi, VNA, 3 Nov--The Soviet assistance to Vietnam's secondary vocational and higher education has actively contributed to the training of a large and qualified contingent for various branches of science and technology, says Prof Nguyen Dinh Tu in an article published on daily NHAN DAN Tuesday.

Nguyen Dinh Tu, who is a member of the CPV Central Committee and minister of secondary vocational and higher education, continues:

"In the past 38 years since the victory of the August revolution, the secondary and higher education service in Vietnam has made continual and steady progress, and, in the process, it has received valuable assistance from the Soviet Union and other fraternal socialist countries.

After 1961, at the end of the economic restoration program following the first Indochina War, the Soviet Union helped Vietnam build a number of most important colleges and universities and trained technical and scientific cadres for different branches of activity in the new period of the revolution.

In the 1964-65 academic year, North Vietnam already had 16 universities and colleges and 112 vocational schools compared with four and eight colleges and schools respectively in the 1955-56 school-year.

The Soviet Union has also helped Vietnam erect and equip several colleges, in particular the college of agriculture No 1 and the Hanoi polytechnics.

During the war against U.S. aggression, the Soviet Union received each year an increasing number of Vietnamese students and trainees. From 1965 to 1968, more than 2,250 Vietnamese students graduated from the Soviet Union, a three-fold increase over the pre-war period.

"With the reunification of Vietnam in 1975, the cooperation between the secondary vocational and higher education services of the two countries has assumed broader dimensions and become more comprehensive under bilateral cooperation agreements, the Soviet Union has continued helping Vietnam in the training on scientific and technical cadres and economic managers, especially qualified cadres including doctors and masters of science. Since 1975, nearly 2,000

Vietnamese trainees and post-graduates and 5,150 university students have graduated from the Soviet Union. At present, 4,600 Vietnamese students are studying in various Soviet universities. Besides, there has been an increase of mutual visits by experts and scientists, and closer cooperation in joint research programs."

Nguyen Dinh Tu added: "Cooperation in education also finds its expression in the twinning of various universities of the two countries. So far, 22 Vietnamese universities have been twinned to 23 Soviet universities.

Preparations are under way for the setting up in Hanoi of a subsidiary on the Pushkin Russian Institute with a view to broadening and improving the learning of Russian in Vietnam.

All told, during the past 30 years the Soviet Union has trained for Vietnam more than 18,100 scientific and technical cadres including 14,600 university students and 3,270 post-graduates. Of the latter number 2,125 have received the associate doctor degree and 63 others, the doctor degree.

CSO: 4200/159

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE AND AID

ACTIVITIES MARK SRV-USSR FRIENDSHIP ANNIVERSARY

OW031141 Hanoi VNA in English 0934 GMT 3 Nov 83

[Text] Hanoi, VNA, 2 November--A meeting was held yesterday in Vinh Phu Province, northwest of Hanoi, to mark the fifth anniversary of the signing of the Vietnam-USSR Treaty of Friendship and Cooperation and the 66th anniversary of the great October Socialist Revolution.

Present at the meeting were local officials and the visiting delegation of the USSR-Vietnam Friendship Society led by G. A. Semenov, member of the CPSU Central Committee and vice-president of the society.

Vice-president Semenov and Pham Du, deputy secretary of the Provincial Party Committee and president of the local branch of the Vietnam-USSR Friendship Association [VUFA], expressed their wish for fine development of the friendship and comprehensive cooperation between the two countries.

On this occasion, the VUFA chapter in the southern province of Song Be held exhibitions, talks, seminars, press and radio programmes on the Soviet land and people.

The state commission for science and technology sponsored here today a meeting in the same vein.

Present at the meeting were Dang Huu, alternate member of the party Central Committee and head of the commission; Prof Tran Dai Nghia, president of the Hanoi Association for Science and Technology; A. I. Soupar, Soviet scientific and technical attache; and others.

A seminar was held here today by the Vietnam Institute of Science for the same purpose.

It was attended by Prof Dr Nguyen Van Hieu, alternate member of the CPV Central Committee and director of the institute, and the first secretary and the scientific and technical attache of the Soviet Embassy in Vietnam.

Also today the Bim Son cement plant in Thanh Hoa Province, south of Hanoi, held a meeting on the same event.

CSO: 4200/159

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE AND AID

OFFICIAL IN NHAN DAN ON USSR AID TO OIL INDUSTRY

OW281958 Hanoi VNA in English 1514 GMT 28 Oct 83

[Text] Hanoi, VNA, 28 Oct--"The growth and development of the Vietnamese oil and natural gas industry is closely associated to the great and valuable assistance of the Soviet Union," says Nguyen Hoa, member of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Vietnam and general director of the general department of oil and natural gas, in an article published in Nhan Dan today.

The article was written in honour of the fifth anniversary of the Vietnam-USSR Treaty of Friendship and Cooperation (3 November) and the 66th anniversary of the great October Socialist Revolution. He wrote:

"Right after the liberation of North Vietnam (1954), the Soviet Union sent its prominent oil prospection specialists to Vietnam to help in the survey and prospection for oil and natural gas.

"The Soviet specialists, after nearly 2 years of intense work (1959-1960), completed a report on the oil potentials and the methods for oil prospection in Vietnam. Together with Vietnamese oil-drilling engineers they installed the first oil rig in Tien Hung District, Thai Binh Province.

"Since 1974, oil prospection has been stepped up along with the construction of a series of drilling wells. The Soviet Ministry of Geology set up an oil and gas experts' team to help Vietnam. In January 1975, the first gas deposit was found in Vietnam which is being exploited to supply gas for a gas-powered electric station in Thai Binh.

After the liberation of South Vietnam, oil prospection was pushed ahead still further. The Soviet Government sent a group of high-level oil specialists team to Vietnam and increased considerably its investments for oil prospection in the low land of the Red River Delta.

"At the same time, it provided technical assistance in oil prospection in the Mekong River Delta.

"The signing of the Vietnam-USSR Treaty of Friendship and Cooperation in November 1978, marked a new stage in the development of the cooperative relations between Vietnam and the Soviet Union.

"In July 1980 the two governments signed an agreement on cooperation in exploring, prospecting and exploiting oil at several lots in the southern continental shelf of Vietnam.

"In June 1981 the two governments signed a protocol founding the joint Vietnam-USSR oil enterprise and approved its working programme and budget for the 1981-85 period and the ensuing years.

"Under the terms of the signed agreements as well as the annual cooperation programs, the two sides have invested a large amount of money for oil prospecting and extraction and also concentrated on assembling the first off-shore rig and accelerating the construction of the oil and gas industry centre in Vung Tau.

The Soviet Union has also extended extremely valuable and great assistance in the training of the scientific and technical personnel for the Vietnamese oil industry. Hundreds of Vietnamese engineers and dozens of Vietnamese associate doctors and doctors in geology, geo-physics, and in other branches of the oil industry have graduated from universities in Moscow, Baku and other places in the Soviet Union. A large number of Vietnamese oil workers have been trained at different Soviet vocational schools."

Besides, hundreds of Vietnamese engineers and workers have been sent annually for practice and research in the Soviet Union.

On the other hand, the Soviet experts working at the Vietnamese oil and natural gas enterprises, prompted by noble internationalism, have passed on to Vietnamese technicians and workers their valuable experiences and knowledge in this field.

The Soviet Union has not only helped Vietnam in oil and gas prospection and drilling but also in laying the bases for its own oil industry.

"It has sent annually to Vietnam a large quantity of modern equipment, such as oil rigs, geo-physical and laboratory equipment which meet Vietnam's conditions and technical level.

According to scientists, Vietnam's off-shore oil deposits are considerable. With the active assistance of the Soviet Union, Vietnam's oil and gas industry will certainly make quick progress in the years to come."

CSO: 4200/159

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE AND AID

PAPER ON UPCOMING KRIANGSAK VISIT TO SRV

BK280348 Bangkok THE NATION REVIEW in English 28 Oct 83 p 6

[Text] Vietnamese Ambassador to Thailand Tran Quang Co said yesterday that former Prime Minister Gen Kriangsak Chamnan might see Prime Minister Pham Van Dong when he visits Vietnam in the middle of next month.

He told THE NATION that Gen Kriangsak was going to visit Hanoi in his capacity as chairman of the House Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs and would be therefore received by the president of the Vietnamese Parliament.

But Gen Kriangsak who asked to visit Vietnam for 1 week beginning 14 November could meet Pham Van Dong because they are "close friends," according to the ambassador.

He added if the Vietnamese prime minister was not too busy then, the odds are high that he will receive Gen Kriangsak.

Asked about the possibility of Gen Kriangsak meeting with Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach, the ambassador said he did not know whether Thach would be on an overseas mission then. He added if Thach is available for such a meeting, he expected the two to meet.

Co said that he was waiting for a confirmation from Hanoi over the date of Kriangsak's visit to the communist country.

"Gen Kriangsak asked to visit our country on 14 November because he has had to visit Vienna in Austria before the time. However, Hanoi has agreed in principle to the visit by the former prime minister of Thailand," he said.

The Vietnamese ambassador also said, when asked about an invitation from Indonesian Foreign Minister Mokhtar Kusumaatmaja for Thach to visit Vietnam [as published] on his way back from Canberra, that Hanoi had not received an official invitation.

"Even the date for Mr Thach's visit to Australia has not yet been worked out," he said.

He said that Vietnam and its allies did not challenge the credentials of the Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea (CCDK) during the ongoing UN General Assembly because "there was no need to do so."

He said that whether CCDK would manage to retain its seat at the international body or not would not affect the situation inside Kampuchea.

Despite prevalent pessimism among various circles over an early breakthrough for the Kampuchean issue, the ambassador said that there existed some indications that a dialogue between the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) and the Indochinese countries could materialize sooner or later.

"There have been indications that there exists a willingness on the part of some ASEAN countries to start such a dialogue," he said.

The indications, the ambassador said, included the separate meetings in New York between Thach and Foreign Ministers of Thailand, Malaysia, Indonesia and Singapore.

He added that even the invitation from Jakarta for Thach to visit Indonesia was among the indications.

However, he declined to say whether Hanoi would accept the invitation in principle, saying that it depended on Thach.

CSO: 4200/159

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE AND AID

SRV JOINS IN SEARCH FOR U.S. SHIP'S SURVIVERS

0W042103 Hong Kong AFP in English 0040 GMT 4 Nov 83

[Text] Hong Kong, 4 Nov (AFP)--After 9 days of intensive air-and-sea search, rescuers still hope to find survivors from the sunken drillship Glomar Java Sea since weather conditions in the area improved in the last few days, the vessel's owner said last night.

The Glomar Java Sea disappeared with nearly 80 people on board on 25 October during a typhoon off southern China.

Global Marine Inc, based in Houston, Texas, said in a statement released here yesterday that air-search activities were continuing by the Western Pacific Rescue Coordination Center (Westpac) and a number of Chinese vessels.

The Vietnamese Government had also joined in the search and had promised to repatriate any survivors, the statement said.

About 15 life jackets, a radio-transmitter and two fenders were found last week and identified as belonging to the missing ship.

The Glomar Java Sea carried two covered lifeboats and four life rafts. A capsized lifeboat was reported sighted, and a second sighting of a lifeboat had also been reported, the statement said.

The company believes an SOS transmitted 27 October, using the call sign of the Glomar Java Sea, was made by a lifeboat. One of the four life rafts had been recovered, but none of the others had been sighted, the statement added.

C30: 4200/159

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE AND AID

MINISTER IN NHAN DAN ON USSR AGRICULTURAL AID

OW261738 Hanoi VNA in English 1525 GMT 26 Oct 83

[Text] Hanoi, VNA, 26 Oct--"Soviet assistance plays a very important role in Vietnam's agricultural development," says Nguyen Ngoc Triu, member of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee and minister of agriculture, in an article published in Nhan Dan today.

The article, written in honour of the fifth anniversary of the Vietnam-USSR Treaty of Friendship and Cooperation and the 66th anniversary of the great October Socialist Revolution, reviews the Soviet Union's great and effective assistance to Vietnam in agricultural development over the past decades, he says:

"As early as the early 1960's, the Soviet Union sent specialists, materials and equipment to Vietnam to help build 42 state farms and reclaim waste land to restore and expand agricultural production."

"The Soviet Union has helped Vietnam determine the key scientific and technical questions and draw 14 programmes for scientific and technical research in agriculture. Vietnam is undertaking 13 research projects in collaboration with different scientific and technical institutes in the Soviet Union.

"During the war of resistance to U.S. aggression, the Soviet Union continued helping Vietnam expand the system of state farms, reclaim 120,000 more hectares of land, plant on a large- scale many industrial crops and fruit trees such as tea, coffee, orange, lemon, pineapple and zone grazing areas for cattle breeding.

"Drawing on the experience of the Soviet Union in building, organizing and running state farms, Vietnam has built more than 300 state farms for cultivation and animal husbandry in the whole country."

"In furtherance of the economic cooperation program in the agricultural fields, in November 1976, the Soviet Union and Vietnam signed a long-term plan for cooperation in growing tea, coffee, cotton, pineapple, banana, sugarcane, rubber and vegetables covering hundreds of thousands of hectares including 50,000 hectares of rubber in the eastern part of southern Vietnam.

So far, Vietnam has put nearly 10,000 more hectares under rubber trees in Song Be Province. Other areas have been zoned for the planting of tea, coffee, vegetables [VNA elipsis].

The Soviet Union has supplied Vietnam with a sizeable quantity of agricultural machines, equipment and materials. Nearly 20,000 Soviet-made tractors, bulldozers, combine harvesters, sowing machines and other heavy-duty machines are operating in all parts of the country, considerably contributing to the initial stage of agricultural mechanization.

Today, agricultural machine stations or units have been set up in 200 districts throughout the country. These stations and units can handle 30 and more per cent of the tilling of all arable lands.

"Together with supplying Vietnam with technical equipment, the Soviet Union has helped it form a fairly comprehensive network of agricultural engineering workshops. With nine tractor-repair shops each capable of repairing from 250 to 300 tractors a year, Vietnam now can handle major repairs of its tractors. With Soviet assistance, it has built 120 stations for minor repairs of tractors, 45 maintenance workshops, thus forming a network of repair shops for agricultural machines in all parts of the country. The farm engineering service is staffed by nearly 800 engineers and 30 associated doctors, most of them having graduated in the Soviet Union. They constitute an important factor to advance our small-scale agriculture to a mechanized and electrified agriculture.

In recent years, thanks to the fertilizer, fuel and materials supplied by the Soviet Union, Vietnam has increased constantly its food output which helped substantially reduce food import an importnat strategic target.

In building and developing its own agricultural science and technique, Vietnamese scientists and farmers have greatly benefitted by the valuable experience of the Soviet Union covering a wide range of questions, from zoning of crops, cultivation and animal husbandry to economic management and farm engineering.

This has helped Vietnam (?through) the scientific basis for the realization of economic targets set in the resolution of the Communist Party of Vietnam.

CSO: 4200/159

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE AND AID

BRIEFS

VIETNAM-SWEDEN MEDICAL COOPERATION--Hanoi, VNA, 20 Oct--Vietnamese Vice Minister of Public Health Nguyen Duy Cuong and Swedish Ambassador Ragnar Dromberg have signed in Hanoi an agreement on medical cooperation between the two countries for 1983-85 period. Under the agreement the Swedish Government will invest 110,000,000 Swedish kronor in various joint medical projects with Vietnam. Present at the signing ceremony of the Vietnamese side were Dang Hoi Xuan, minister of public health and representatives of the ministries of foreign affairs and foreign trade and the State Council for Planning. On the Swedish side were members of a Swedish delegation and of the embassy staff. [Text] [OW201912 Hanoi VNA in English 1544 GMT 20 Oct 83]

OLTEANU GREETED--Hanoi, VNA, 23 October--Vietnamese Defence Minister General Van Tien Dung today sent a message of greetings to his Romanian counterpart Colonel-General Constantin Olteanu, on the 39th anniversary of the armed forces of the socialist Republic of Romania (25 October). The message wishes the Romanian people's armed forces still greater successes in their efforts to increase their fighting capacity and consolidate national defence as well as in socialist construction, thus contributing, together with the other Warsaw Treaty countries, to the preservation of peace and security in Europe and the rest of the world. After thanking the Romanian people and armed forces for their support to the Vietnamese people and army, the message expresses the wish for further development of the friendship between the peoples and armed forces of the two countries and for good health and happiness of the Romanian minister. [Text] [OW240743 Hanoi VNA in English 1528 GMT 23 Oct 83]

USSR RESEARCH SHIP VISITS HAIPHONG--Hanoi, VNA, 28 October--The Soviet ship "Ocean" arrived in the Vietnamese port of Haiphong Monday in furtherance of a programme for scientific and technical cooperation in tropical meteorology and typhoon research between Vietnam and the Soviet Union. A Vietnamese delegation, led by Tran Van An, director general of the general department of meteorology and hydrology (GDMH), and Cao Van, vice-chairman of the people's committee of Haiphong city, visited the ship. They were warmly received by G. V. Surznenko, captain of the ship, V. D. Pudov, official in charge of scientific research, and others. The "Ocean" left Haiphong Tuesday to carry out its scientific research programme. Participating in this programme are five scientific cadres of the GDMH. [Text] [OW281935 Hanoi VNA in English 1700 GMT 28 Oct 83]

EDUCATION DELEGATION ENDS VISIT--Hanoi, VNA, 29 Oct--A delegation of the Vietnamese Ministry of Education led by Mrs Nguyen Thi Binh, member of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Vietnam and minister of education, concluded its friendship visit to Algeria yesterday. While there, it was received by M. Cherif Massaadiagn political bureau member and head of the permanent commission of the secretariat of the Central Committee of the Algerian National Liberation Front Party (FLN); and Dr A. Taleb Ibrahimi, minister for foreign affairs. Mrs Nguyen Thi Binh held talks with M. Cherif Kharroubi, member of the FLN Central Committee and minister of secondary and primary education, and other educational officials. Both sides expressed their confidence that the cooperation in education between Vietnam and Algeria would further develop in the coming days. On 24 October Minister Nguyen Thi Binh and Minister M. C. Kharroubi signed a document on education cooperation between the two countries. The two ministers agreed on the necessity of meetings between the educational services of the two countries to exchange experience. The Vietnamese guests toured several educational establishments in Algiers. [Text] [0W291105 Hanoi VNA in English 0750 GMT 29 Oct 83]

SOVIET UNION PROVIDES MEDICAL AID--Hanoi, VNA, 31 Oct--The Soviet Union has begun shipping medical equipment and instruments to Vietnam as aid for major hospitals in the northern border provinces of Lang Son and Cao Bang, according to the Public Health Ministry of the Soviet Union. Next year, the Soviet Union will provide medical equipment and instruments for 150 medical stations in Vietnam's rural areas. Over the past 25 years, the Soviet Union has trained hundreds of Vietnamese medical doctors. At present, many Vietnamese students are studying at Soviet medical colleges. [Text] [0W011011 Hanoi VNA in English 0852 GMT 1 Nov 83]

NATIONAL DAY RECEPTION OFFERED--Hanoi, VNA, 1 Nov--Algerian Ambassador Nacer al-Din Haffad offered a reception here today in honour of the 29th National Day of his country (1 November). Among those present at the reception were Tran Quynh, member of the CPV Central Committee and vice-chairman of the council of ministers; Phan Anh, vice-chairman of the National Assembly; Vu Quang, member of the CPV Central Committee and head of its international department; and Hoang Anh Tuan, vice-foreign minister. Toasts were raised to this historic anniversary of the Vietnamese and Algerian peoples in building their countries into prosperous and happy ones, and to further consolidation and development of the militant solidarity, friendship and cooperation between the two countries. [Text] [0W012307 Hanoi VNA in English 1641 GMT 1 Nov 83]

USSR AMITY DELEGATION RECEIVED--Hanoi, VNA, 3 Nov--Tran Xuan Bach, secretary of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee, received here yesterday a delegation of the Soviet-Vietnamese Friendship Society [SVFS] now visiting Vietnam. The delegation is led by V. G. Semenov, member of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union Central Committee and vice-president of the society. With Tran Xuan Bach were Nguyen Vinh, president of the Vietnam-USSR Friendship Association, and Trinh Ngoc Thai, secretary general of the Vietnam committee for solidarity and friendship with other peoples. M. Pisanov, first secretary of the Soviet Embassy here, attended the reception. Tran Xuan Bach said he highly valued the SVFS's activities over the 25 years since its founding, and particularly over the 5 years since the signing of the Vietnam-USSR Treaty on Friend-

ship and Cooperation. V. G. Semenov said that the Soviet-Vietnamese Friendship Society, with millions of members across the Soviet Union, will actively contribute to the further consolidation and development of the friendship and all-around cooperation between the Soviet Union and Vietnam. [Text] [OW031920 Hanoi VNA in English 1612 GMT 3 Nov 83]

FRIENDSHIP BODY'S ANNIVERSARY MARKED--Hanoi, VNA, 3 Nov--Czechoslovak Ambassador Bohuslav Handl held a get-together for this evening to mark the first anniversary of the Vietnam-Czechoslovakia Friendship Association. Present on the occasion were Dang Huu, alternate member of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee, chairman of the state commission for science and technology and president of the Vietnam-Czechoslovakia Friendship Association; Trinh Ngoc Thai, secretary general of the Vietnam Committee for Solidarity and Friendship with other peoples; and other officials. [Text] [OW031900 Hanoi VNA in English 1615 GMT 3 Nov 83]

LECTURERS VISIT SRV--Hanoi, VNA, 4 November--Two lecturers of the CPSU Central Committee have paid a visit to Vietnam on the occasion of the 66th anniversary of the October Revolution and the fifth anniversary of the Vietnam-USSR Treaty of Friendship and Cooperation. The visitors V. M. Kuznetsov, advisor of the propaganda committee and N. V. Bagrov, secretary of the Crimea Party Committee and in charge of its ideological work, who were guests of the CPV Central Committee [CC], toured Hanoi, Ho Chi Minh City, Ha Son Binh and Quang Ninh Provinces, and the Vung Tau-co Dao special sector. They gave lectures on the CPSU's economic policy and ideological work since its 26th Congress. They also called at the office and residence here of the late President Ho Chi Minh. The Soviet lecturers were cordially received by Hoang Tung, secretary of the CPV CC, on 2 November, and left Vietnam Thursday. [Text] [OW041137 Hanoi VNA in English 0710 GMT 4 Nov 83]

CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE SIGN AGREEMENT--Hanoi, VNA, 5 November--A cooperation agreement for 1983 and 1984 between the Chamber of Commerce of the SRV and the Czechoslovak Chamber of Commerce and Industry was signed in Prague Friday. Signatories were Nguyen Tan and P. Pisara, respectively acting general secretary and general secretary of the two agencies. Under this agreement, the two sides will expand bilateral contacts, participate in trade exhibitions and fairs organized in either country, hold joint seminars and exchange documents. [Text] [OW051550 Hanoi VNA in English 1506 GMT 5 Oct 83]

CULTURE DELEGATION MEETS ZIMYANIN--Hanoi, VNA, 5 Nov--M. V. Zimyanin, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, received in Moscow Thursday a delegation of the department for culture and arts of the CPV Central Committee. During its 2-week visit to the Soviet Union ending Friday, the delegation, led by Ha Xuan Truong, head of the department, had working sessions with officials of the cultural committee of the CPSU Central Committee, the Ministry of Culture, and various literature and arts unions. The Vietnamese guests toured Moscow, Leningrad and the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic. [Text] [OW050757 Hanoi VNA in English 0750 GMT 5 Nov 83]

MINISTER ARRIVES IN ALBANIA--Hanoi, VNA, 5 Nov--Delegation of the Vietnamese Ministry for Foreign Affairs led by its vice-minister, Ha Van Lau, arrived in

Tirana Thursday on an official friendship visit to Albania. The delegation was welcomed at the airport by Sokrat Plaka, vice-foreign minister, and other officials of the Albanian Foreign Ministry. Vietnamese Ambassador Hoang Quoc Tinh was also present. [Text] [OW050923 Hanoi VNA in English 0736 GMT 5 Nov 83]

PUSHKIN 'SUBINSTITUTE' INAUGURATED--Hanoi, VNA, 5 Nov--The Pushkin Sub-institute of Russian established at the Hanoi polytechnic, was inaugurated on 4 November by the Ministry of Secondary Vocational and Higher Education. Present were Nguyen Dinh Tu, member of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee; Prof Nguyen Van Huong, deputy director of the office of the council of ministers; Luong Ngoc Toan, vice minister of education; Tran Van Tu, vice chairman of the committee for science and education; and representatives of the Foreign Ministry and the Vietnam-USSR Friendship Association. Soviet Counsellor I. N. Yuritski; members of the visiting delegation of the Ministry of Higher and Specialized Secondary Education headed by V. G. Kostamarov, director of the Soviet Union's Pushkin Institute of Russian; and Soviet experts attended the inauguration. Speaking at the ceremony, Hoang Xuan Tuy, vice-minister of secondary vocational and higher education, thanked the Soviet Union for its valuable assistance to Vietnam. On behalf of the Soviet delegation, V. G. Kostamarov expressed his joy at visiting Vietnam and said that the founding of the sub-institute in Vietnam is a vivid expression of the friendship and all-round cooperation between Vietnam and the Soviet Union. On behalf of the two ministries, Hoang Xuan Tuy and V. G. Kostamarov signed a document on cooperation between the two ministries aimed at increasing the concrete conditions for promoting the Pushkin Sub-institute's activities. [Text] [OW050807 Hanoi VNA in English 0757 GMT 5 Nov 83]

SOVIET PRESS DELEGATION ENDS VISIT--Hanoi, VNA, 6 Nov--An army press delegation of the Defence Ministry of the Soviet Union led by Major-General V. F. Madolev paid a week-long visit to Vietnam ending Saturday. While here, the Soviet guests had working sessions with the editorial board of the army review "Quan Doi Nhan Dan" (People's Army), visited the Ho Chi Minh Museum and the Army Museum, and toured some places of historic interest in Hanoi and Ho Chi Minh City. Lieutenant-General Le Quang Hoa, vice-minister of national defence, cordially received the delegation. [Text] [OW061618 Hanoi VNA in English 1501 GMT 6 Nov 83]

MALIAN AMBASSADOR RECEIVED--Hanoi, VNA, 7 November--Boubacar Toure, ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the Republic of Mali to Vietnam, today made a courtesy call on chairman of the council of ministers Pham Van Dong. Chairman Pham Van Dong had a cordial talk with the Malian ambassador. [Text] [OW071640 Hanoi VNA in English 1529 GMT 7 Nov 83]

BALLET PERFORMANCE--Hanoi, VNA, 7 November--The Vietnam opera theatre and the Vietnam school of choreo-graphy have jointly staged the classical ballet "Giselle" in cooperation with the ballot opera theatre of the Moldavian Soviet Socialist Republic. The premiere was held at Hanoi's municipal theatre on 6 November in honour of the fifth anniversary of the Vietnam-USSR Treaty of Friendship and Cooperation and the 66th anniversary of the Russian October Revolution. It was attended by Hoang Tung, secretary of the CPV Central Committee; Nguyen van Hieu, minister of culture; and others. Counsellor I. N. Yuritskiy and other staff members of the Soviet Embassy here were present. [Text] [OW070837 Hanoi VNA in English 0922 GMT 7 Nov 83]

MEDICAL COOPERATION WITH ALGERIA--In an interview with the Voice of Vietnam radio correspondent, Dr (Dang Kim Chau) of the Vietnam-Germany Friendship Hospital, former head of a Vietnamese medical experts team in Algeria, revealed that in 1981 the Ministry of Public Health sent more than 90 doctors and physicians to work at three hospitals in Algeria. This number has increased to 400 in 1983. Algeria has asked for 300 medical experts in early 1984 and another 300 in early 1985, thus bringing to 1,000 the total number of Vietnamese doctors and physicians in this country. [Summary] [BK021454 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 0015 GMT 28 Oct 83]

VONADK CLAIMS LEAPLETS URGE WITHDRAWAL--According to reports from Vietnam, following the 38th UN General Assembly's decision to adopt for the fifth time and with an overwhelming majority a resolution condemning the Vietnamese enemy aggressors in Kampuchea and calling for the withdrawal of all the Vietnamese aggressor troops from Kampuchea, leaflets have been distributed in almost every province in South Vietnam. Some of these leaflets say Vietnam has been disgraced throughout the world, Vietnamese children are dying and rotting in Kampuchea, our husbands and relatives must be returned to us, and stop that war of aggression which we will lose. Others say the Le Duan clique must be responsible for Vietnam's disgrace in the international arena and that Vietnam's honor must be restored by immediately withdrawing the aggressor troops from Kampuchea. Furthermore, the reports add that there are many other kinds of leaflets, some of which were written on behalf of students, peasants, workers, or war invalids. [Text] [BK041229 (Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2300 GMT 3 Nov 83]

LEAPLETS URGE SOVIET WITHDRAWAL--According to a report from Vietnam, following the visit to Vietnam by a Soviet delegation led by Aliyev and after Vietnam's fifth shameful defeat at the United Nations, many leaflets exposing the Soviet international expansionists were distributed in Vietnam. According to the report, on 5 November leaflets were distributed in various ports in Vietnam where the Soviet military bases are located. The leaflets said: All Soviet nationals, must leave Vietnam. The Soviet Union must stop aiding the Vietnamese Le Duan clique in its war of aggression against Kampuchea. Many Vietnamese people have suffered great misery and have been separated from their husbands and sons due to this war of aggression. The Le Duan clique must stop serving as a cheap valet of the Soviet Union. [Text] [BK090947 (Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2300 GMT 8 Nov 83]

SOVIET TRAINING COOPERATION PROGRAMS--Fifteen years ago the Soviet Union and Vietnam started a training cooperation program to train workers for Vietnamese national economic sectors. Over the past 15 years the Soviet Union has produced 14,000 Vietnamese skilled workers for the ferrous and nonferrous metal sectors, machinery plants, construction, communications and transportation, agricultural, and other economic sectors. One of the important cooperation

programs is the Soviet technical aid to Vietnam to help establish state vocational training centers, vocational technical middle schools majoring in producing machinery, exploiting coal mines, and building roads and so forth. These schools have been built and are in operation in many municipalities. The Soviet Union will, in the near future, help Vietnam build and completely install equipment at a training center for workers of the energy sector in Hoa Binh City, Ha Son Binh Province, and an agricultural engineering middle school in Ho Chi Minh City. [Text] [BK030615 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 0400 GMT 2 Nov 83]

CSO: 4209/50

ECONOMIC PLANNING, TRADE AND FINANCE

NHAN DAN DISCUSSES TAX COLLECTION SITUATION

BK061534 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 0400 GMT 1 Nov 83

[Article by (Yen Thanh) carried in "recent issue" of NHAN DAN: "Achieve Collective Mastery on the Distribution and Circulation Front After 9 Months of Implementing the Law on Industrial and Trade Taxes"]

[Excerpts] The new law on industrial and trade taxes, which is being broadly enforced throughout the country, has initially created a positive change. According to the Finance Ministry, it is estimated that 75.5 percent of the annual target for tax collection has been achieved over the past 9 months. This figure equals 243 percent of the tax collection for the same period last year. The collection of four out of eight kinds of taxes has reached 70 percent and up, and low results have been reported only in the collection of three kinds of taxes: slaughter tax, marketing cooperative profit tax, and merchandise tax. Dac Lac and Tien Giang Provinces fulfilled at an early date their tax collection plans for all of 1983, and they are now continuing to bring in tens of millions of dong in taxes for the 4th quarter of the year.

The successes recorded in the first 9 months of the year show that the revised law on industrial and trade taxes serves as a managerial tool in regulating state revenues with taxes collected from persons selling goods or services, and in helping to stabilize prices and establish new order on the market. [Passage omitted on efforts undertaken by various localities to ensure strict enforcement of the new law on industrial and trade taxes.]

Although better results have been achieved in the collection of industrial and trade taxes over the past 9 months than in the past, there is still a high percentage of uncollected taxes in various localities which ranges from 30 to 60 percent. Taxes remain uncollected because not all business households have registered with the authorities and business incomes and net profits are computed in smaller figures than they actually are. Some business households have often reacted against the tax law by temporarily closing down their business in one location while setting up business in another location or by clandestinely dealing in another line of merchandise. Many households have failed to register their businesses, kept their business incomes secret, evaded taxes, made false tax declarations or failed to comply with the accounting system and open accounts at the bank.

In some localities, private traders have opposed the tax law by closing their businesses en masse. However, after the decision on market management was made public--under which market stalls are rearranged according to the merchandise sold and those who suspend their businesses will have their licenses revoked and their goods in stock inventoried--these traders have come out to register their businesses.

Taking advantage of this situation, illegal traders have sought ways to get hold of scarce state supplies and goods for sale on the free market. With the help of a number of degenerate cadres working at state organs, they obtain false official documents to pass through the control of the public security, finance, and market management sectors. As state goods--in which private individuals are not permitted to deal--are still subjected to losses, many tax subdivisions and offices, aside from carrying out their regular tasks, have also assumed the duty of inspecting and controlling the circulation of contraband. [Passage omitted on measures for ensuring collection of taxes and strengthening the contingent of tax cadres.]

CSO: 4209/50

ECONOMIC PLANNING, TRADE AND FINANCE

BRIEFS

PROVINCES LAUDED FOR SAVINGS DEPOSITS--The chairman of the Council of Ministers has sent a message commending Ha Tuyen, Hoang Lien Son, Nghia Binh, Bac Thai, Hai Hung, and Cao Bang provinces for encouraging deposits of savings. According to a State Bank report, as of 30 September, these provinces had overfulfilled the 1983 savings deposit plan. The chairman of the Council of Ministers commended cadres, combatants, and people of these provinces for having displayed a spirit of diligence and thrift in socialist construction and economized on their spendings in order to deposit money in savings funds. He hopes that they will develop the achievements scored by making the movement to deposit savings even more [?seething] in order to positively contribute to the socialist construction cause. [Text] [BK070549 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 6 Nov 83]

CSO: 4209/50

AGRICULTURE

BRIEFS

DAI LOC RICE HARVEST--Hanoi, VNA, 24 Oct--Dai Loc District in Quang Nam-danang Province, central Vietnam, recently harvested its summer-autumn rice crop, the third within this year, with an average yield of four tons per hectare. The district has nearly 4,000 hectares of rice fields, of which 3,500 hectares are planted with three crops and the rest, two crops, in a year. This year, per hectare yield on the whole rice acreage of the district reached 12 tons. On the fields supporting three crops in a year, the yield approximated 14 tons. Dai Phuoc cooperative in this district, a foremost cooperative of the country in rice productivity for the past 2 years, yielded 21 tons per hectare. Nineteen other co-ops of the total 30 in the district harvested from 15 to 17 tons. In 1982, Dai Loc was among the districts with the highest rice productivity in the country yielding 11.74 tons per hectare, second only to Hong Ngu District of the Mekong River Delta Province of Dong Thap which yielded 11.93 tons. [Text] [OW241943 Hanoi VNA in English 1553 GMT 24 Oct 83]

CSO: 4200/159

HEAVY INDUSTRY AND CONSTRUCTION

ECONOMIC ASPECT OF HYDROELECTRICITY DEVELOPMENT ENVISAGED

Hanoi KY THUAT DIEN LUC in Vietnamese No 2 Apr 83 pp 6-9

[Article by Ho Ngoc Phu, of the Electricity Survey and Planning Corporation: "Economic Considerations in Hydroelectricity Development in Our Country"]

[Text] At present and for the next few years, we are being and will be faced with many difficulties in providing enough electricity to meet production and life requirements. However, we have also good grounds for rejoicing: The Pha Lai thermoelectric plant is preparing to put the first (110-Mw) machine unit into operation in mid-1983 and afterward will urgently install the remaining ones; at the Hoa Binh giant hydroelectric work site, the first stage of river filling has been completed successfully and urgent efforts are being made to carry out construction at the fixed speed in order to put the first machine unit into operation in the 1987-88 dry season. In addition to these two large-sized power plants on whose construction the state is concentrating its efforts, we are making urgent preparations to start at an early date the construction of some other medium- and large-sized power plants in Central and South Vietnam such as the Tri An hydroelectric plant, the Central Vietnam thermoelectric plant, the Dray Linh and Iali hydroelectric plants, etc and a number of small hydroelectric power stations. Never in the history of electric power development in our country has the state concentrated so vigorously on investment and development as it is doing now. It can be said that these efforts--especially those focused on hydroelectricity development--constitute a cheerful leap forward.

Investigations into the natural sources of hydraulic energy in our country are still few and scattered and no organizational measure has been taken to evaluate them. In particular, the socioeconomic and production-economic aspects of the building and operation of hydroelectric plants in the electric power network of our country have not yet been studied sufficiently.

In the No 4, 1982 issue of the KY THUAT DIEN LUC magazine, we have a very brief outline of the capacities of the hydroelectric sources in our country. Because of a lack of basic documents and because research is still being done in a scattered manner, it is certain that much remains to be done in the future to supplement the above-mentioned task of collecting data and systematizing, analyzing and presenting them.

This article is aimed merely at elucidating some economic characteristics of hydroelectricity construction in our country. Since there are both positive and definitely negative aspects in hydroelectric construction, the effectiveness of hydroelectricity development will be limited and, worse still, "benefit does not make up for loss" in some instances if we fail to look objectively at these two facets.

1. Capital Investment and Electric Energy Production Cost.

Capital investment and electric energy production cost are important economic characteristics of hydroelectric projects. Due mainly to topographic and geologic conditions, the capital invested in the construction of a rated capacity of 1 kilowatt of hydroelectricity is usually between half as much as to double (or, in some instances, equivalent to) that invested in a thermoelectric plant. In building hydroelectric plants, the invested capital is concentrated mainly on various works such as hydraulic engineering, treatment of foundations, population transfer and compensation for flooding in the reservoir area. On the contrary, the capital invested in thermoelectric projects is concentrated mainly on equipment.

At present, we are importing almost all the equipment to be installed in electric power plants. Therefore, the ratio of the foreign currency capital to the total capital invested in a project is an important factor in economic calculations. As the sketches of arrangements of various construction works in a hydroelectric terminal (hydroelectric plant with sewers or one situated behind a dam) and of the water column and current of each machine unit...differ from each other, so the ratio of the capital invested in equipment to the total capital invested in the whole project will change. An overall glance will reveal that this ratio ranged between 15 to 30 percent [of the total capital]. On the contrary, for a thermoelectric plant, this ratio ranges approximately between 60 and 75 percent. In view of the present conditions in our country, a higher priority and a greater attention will be given to projects which need only a domestic capital. But in making concrete calculations, it is necessary to realize clearly that not only does the acquisition of the equipment to be assembled and installed require [payment in] foreign currencies but that construction machines, gasoline, oil and some other raw materials also have to be imported from foreign countries. Therefore, it is not appropriate to emphasize too strongly the superiority of hydroelectricity in terms of the low ratio of foreign currency capital required in the present stage (bearing in mind that the absolute value of the foreign currency capital is rather great), especially with regard to medium- and large-sized hydroelectric projects requiring a high technical standard and a mainly mechanized construction. Concerning small-sized hydroelectric projects, it is true that the ratio of foreign currency capital required is lower and that it is possible to fully use the local labor force and raw materials in construction.

Another characteristic which influences investments is the fact that usually it takes more time to build a hydroelectric plant than a thermoelectric one of the same size--usually between half to twice as much time (reckoning from the moment the construction of the principal work is started; if the preparatory

time is taken into account, the length of time will be much greater, especially for large-sized projects). This has two unfavorable effects on the national economy; great demand on the source of capital and failure to meet quickly the need for electricity--which is perhaps one of the principal reasons why during their initial stage of development, the newly developed countries have usually concentrated on building small- and medium-sized projects which require a short construction time but can promptly meet their small but pressing need for energy. From the economic point of view, large-sized projects usually have better economic-technical standards than the small ones but the latter can meet the economy's demand for energy more quickly. These two aspects must be examined under specific conditions before reaching a decision.

Because of the differences in construction time, the amount of capital invested yearly will also vary so that the time factor must be taken into consideration in making calculations and in comparing plans on sources of electricity. Especially with regard to projects with a long period of construction, it is possible to commit errors in drawing a conclusion if one overlooks the loss caused by capital immobilization throughout the construction period.

Since the operational system of hydroelectric plants is very versatile (taking only 2 to 3 minutes from the time the machine unit is started to the time it reaches the design output), hydroelectric plants usually work at the peak or half the peak of the load chart. This is an advantage of hydroelectricity over thermoelectricity, especially in countries having a great peak load. Fully using and developing hydroelectricity to obtain a peak load is a principal trend and a pressing demand of the world energy economy at present and even when nuclear power plants become predominant within the electricity system. The working position of a hydroelectric plant on the load chart is directly related to the rated capacity and to the number of hours this rated capacity can be taken advantage of in the space of year, and thus has a direct influence on the construction cost of a 1-kilowatt capacity. The closer the working position to the peak, the cheaper the construction cost of a 1-kilowatt capacity while the production cost of 1 kilowatt-hour of electric energy almost remains unchanged. On the contrary, with thermoelectricity, the working position on the load chart does not influence the rate of investment in a 1-kilowatt capacity but the production cost of 1 kilowatt-hour of electric energy will continue to rise as the working position comes near the peak.

For this reason, in the field of hydroelectricity, beside the investment norm for an output unit, another one must be calculated for 1 kilowatt-hour of electric energy to be produced by a power plant.

The expenses and investments to be made in the initial stage of construction of a hydroelectric plant are greater than for a thermoelectric one but, on the contrary, the production cost of hydroelectric energy is 4 to 10 times cheaper than that of thermoelectric energy because in the thermoelectric field, the expenses made for fuel amount to 65 to 80 percent of the product's total price. Owing to the cheap cost of [hydro] electric energy, the capital invested in the initial stage can be retrieved in a relatively short period of

time, especially for projects whose construction has been wisely divided into several stages.

In view of the contradictory directions taken by the peculiarities of the construction cost and electric energy production cost incurred in hydroelectricity and thermoelectricity, it is impossible to use each such separate form as a basis for comparison and choice of plans but it is necessary to use general norms (which will be presented in the next issues of this magazine).

2. Economical Use of Fuel.

Economical use of fuel is a major policy within the overall energy policy of each country, especially since 1974 when the energy crisis began in the capitalist world.

Concerning oil, we have great prospects; however, even if oil can be exploited in the forthcoming years, it will be unadvisable and impossible to use large amounts of oil to generate electricity.

Our country possesses a good but not abundant source of coal while the need for coal of the national economic and export sectors is great so that it is necessary to use coal very economically and impossible to allocate a too high percentage of coal to the electricity sector (not to speak of transport conditions).

One of the principal guidelines to save fuel in our country is to step up the exploitation of the source of hydraulic energy to produce electric energy. Though having exploited only 17 percent of the source of hydraulic energy for economic and technical purposes, the Soviet Union has been able to save more than 50 million tons of coal each year. The two hydroelectric plants of Thac Ba and Da Nhim alone can also save about 700,000 tons of coal each year for the state's benefit. In the future when the Hoa Binh and Tri An hydroelectric plants will be put into operation, nearly 5 million tons of coal will be saved each year for the state. This will be a very great achievement not only in matters of energy but concerning also capital construction, communications, transportation and economic development as a whole.

3. Role of the Construction of Hydroelectric Plants in the Process of Redistributing the Labor Force and Shaping Up New Economic Zones.

The Fourth Party Congress has set forth a great task: Redistributing the labor force on a national scale in order to exploit most economically the natural resources of the country. The most important prerequisite for carrying out the labor force redistribution is to create new material and technical bases in regions which already have natural resources but lack a labor force. The building of hydroelectric plants in the middle- and upstream sections of the large rivers situated throughout the country will create favorable conditions to fulfill this task. To use the cheap electric energy generated by a hydroelectric plant, usually around the latter will be built heavy industry installations with a great demand for power (such as nonferrous metallurgical works and building material factories) together with factories designed to

process raw materials obtained on the spot or from the adjoining areas. It is precisely these newly created industrial installations which will constitute a principal material factor to establish new populous centers. The auxiliary works (such as warehouses, storage fields, roads, houses, public utility works, enterprises, electricity and water utilities, etc.) employed in building a hydroelectric plant will later become the initial material bases for new industrial zones and cities. These installations and works will constitute the conditions to shorten the total construction time of industrial zones by 12 to 15--sometimes 20 to 25--percent and also to reduce the preparatory expenditures by a half or two-thirds.

On completion of the Hoa Binh hydroelectric plant construction, the present auxiliary works will become the principal elements to shape up the future Hoa Binh City with a population of between 50,000 and 100,000 and an industrial zone in the northwest region of the fatherland. In the future, medium- and large-sized hydroelectric plants will emerge from almost all important areas of our country and will constitute a huge motive power contributing to stepping up and completing the rational redistribution of the labor force in our country.

4. Combined Use of Sources of Water.

Combined use of sources of water is a principle applied by all countries in exploiting river currents and controlling floods.

In our country, the building of almost all reservoirs is of a combined-use character. It is precisely this characteristic which has helped obtain the highest economic efficiency in exploiting river currents. Beside their main tasks of generating power, most large-scale water conservancy centers in our country usually and simultaneously have the duty to control floods, to provide waterway communications, to perform irrigation and drainage, to supply water to industry, daily life, marine products and so forth. Our economic calculation principle is to give the highest priority to the entire national economy and not to each local separate sector. Therefore, this economic problem will become much more intricate. It is necessary to resolve satisfactorily the contradictions in water volume and water use system between various sectors (especially between power generating and flood control, irrigation and waterway communications in the downstream region) not only at the present time for some specific project but also in the future for all projects on each river as a whole. For example, in addition to producing over 8 billion kilowatt-hours of electricity a year, the Hoa Binh reservoir will be highly effective in controlling floods in the Bac Bo delta and in adding nearly 500 cubic meters per second of water current to the Red River in the dry season to carry out irrigation and drainage and to promote industry and life. The Hoa Binh reservoir will provide 200 kms of waterway on its surface, thus making it very convenient to develop the northwest region's economy and to improve waterway transportation conditions in the downstream region. Moreover, it will be possible to develop marine product production, tourism and health resorts, to improve the climate and so forth. But it is just because of the task of controlling floods in the downstream region that each year we will have to sustain a loss of nearly 4 billion kilowatthours/year and will meet with

difficulties in achieving a balance between electric capacity and electric energy in the [power generating] network in the flooding months.

5. Flooding of Lands and Fields Due to the Construction of Reservoirs.

Unlike thermoelectricity, the building of medium- and large-sized hydroelectric plants will usually lead to the flooding of lands and fields in the reservoir region. This is a very complicated socioeconomic problem. Energy and food are two vital necessities of life. Even in certain large countries with a developed economy and vast areas of lands and fields, the state has had to promulgate very strict regulations on this matter. In particular, the mountainous regions [of our country] are areas where farmlands are scattered and farming conditions difficult so that the flooding of hundreds and thousands of hectares of farmland will become a major problem which will frequently go beyond the reach of economic considerations. At present, there is not yet any satisfactory calculation method to assess the loss caused by flooding of the reservoir bed. Experiences in the Soviet Union have demonstrated that such a loss is assessed in terms of the capital invested in opening up a new tract of land with all the necessary conditions to obtain a harvest and income similar to that derived from the flooded lands and fields and that this capital is added to the money paid to compensate for the yearly income lost from the beginning of the land reclamation to the moment production becomes normal. However, this method is not quite appropriate to a country with a small land area and a large population such as ours.

Apart from the above-mentioned principal economic characteristics of hydroelectric construction, we also wish to raise an economic-technical problem for exchange of views--that is, the choice of a guaranteed power frequency [taanf suaats baor damr] for a hydroelectric plant. About 5 or 7 years ago, a guaranteed power frequency of 95 percent was usually chosen for large hydroelectric plants which played a principle role in the electricity network. Recently, 90 percent has been chosen according to the Soviet Union's standard (and also in Vietnam after modification). In the Soviet Union, after the output of an electricity network has reached tens of millions of kilowatts and when the reserve capacity of the network has grown rather large, a breakdown in some plant will not bring about serious consequences to the national economy. In our country, the present capacity of our electricity network is not very large while we are going to introduce large-sized hydroelectric plants all with a guaranteed power frequency of 90 percent; this is a matter worth pondering. Especially, both the Da Nhim and Tri An hydroelectric plants are situated on the Dong Nai River, have a similar hydrologic system and will constitute a large portion of the total network's capacity so that if the operational system is damaged by a water shortage, the consequences will be very great. Though quantitative calculations are still lacking, we believe that we will feel more confident if about 95 percent is chosen for the guaranteed power frequency of the Tri An hydroelectric plant.

The exploitation of hydroelectricity in our country has just begun. Too many economic-technical questions are being raised and must be studied. In addition to examining the common economic characteristics of hydroelectricity construction in order to form a general outlook over the hydroelectric development trend, we must also organize successive researches into the economic-technical problems proper to the circumstances in Vietnam. Only by doing so can we avoid mistakes in choosing plans for specific construction works.

HEALTH, EDUCATION AND WELFARE

REPORT ON DAMAGE CAUSED BY TROPICAL STORM 'LEX'

OW281948 Hanoi VNA in English 1526 GMT 28 Oct 83

[Text] Hanoi, VNA, 28 Oct--The tropical storm "Lex" hit Dong Hoi Township and six northern districts of the central province of Binh Tri Thien on 26 October.

This is the 10th storm spawned in the Pacific and the fourth to hit Vietnam so far this year. Windspeed at the centre of the storm at Dong Hoi Township was registered at 103-117 km/h, at times from 188 to 133 km/h. Strong winds and heavy rains lasted for 3 hours, destroyed or damaged many houses, warehouses and other installations. Water level in the rivers in the region rose by two metres, causing widespread flood.

According to initial reports, in Dong Hoi Township and in the districts of Bo Trach, Le Ninh and Quang Trach, from 80 to 100 per cent of the dwelling houses, warehouses and schools were ruined. Many boats and ships were wrecked or swept away. North-south rail traffic was disrupted since 300 metres of railway at Thuan Ly station were swept away by flood water. Many other portions of the railway as well as of the national highway No 1 were ruined or submerged. Seventy percent of the electric poles and telephone lines were wrecked. Two thousand hectares of rice in Ben Hai District which were in the earring stage were submerged. Substantial damage was also caused to the subsidiary food crops and other plants and trees in the whole region.

Earlier, the storm "Kim" which landed in the coastal province of Thuan Hai further to the south on 17 October with windspeeds of the 9th or 10th degrees had caused substantial losses, especially in human lives. According to incomplete statistics, more than 200 persons were reported dead or missing, most of them fishermen. Nearly 500 boats and ships were wrecked, more than 3,000 dwelling houses blown down, and 8,000 hectares of rice submerged. Industrial crops such as tobacco castor-oil trees, and sugar-cane also suffered badly.

CSO: 4200/159

HEALTH, EDUCATION AND WELFARE

BRIEFS

CASUALTIES, DAMAGE FROM STORM KIM--The storm Kim, the ninth in the Eastern Sea, hit Vietnam's central coastal provinces of Thuan Hai and Nghia Binh early last week. The storm, accompanied by heavy rains, caused considerable damage to the local population. According to initial statistics, over 300 people in these two provinces were killed or reported missing. Most of the victims were fishermen. In Thuan Hai alone, 500 boats were drown and more than 3,000 houses destroyed. Immediately after the storm subsided, the people's committee of Thuan Hai mobilized all the local people and volunteers to help the people in the storm-stricken areas restore production and stabilize their lives. Later on 26 October, another big storm, the 10th in the Eastern Sea so far, landed in Dong Hoi township and nearby districts in the central coastal province of Binh Tri Thien. The storm, with wind velocity of 110 km per hour, blew down many houses and stores and destroyed many agricultural projects. Many ships were sunk or destroyed many agricultural projects. Many ships were sunk or seriously damaged. Several persons were reportedly killed or injured. Material assistance from nearby regions has been sent to storm-stricken areas to help overcome the storm aftermath and resume normal activities. [Text] [BK281415 Hanoi International Service in English 1000 GMT 28 Oct 83]

HEAVY RAINS CAUSE FLOODS--Hanoi, VNA, 3 November--Very heavy rains in central Vietnam from 30 October to 1 November resulting from a tropical atmospheric depression have caused widespread floods over a large region stretching from the southern part of Nghe Tinh Province to Nghia Binh Province. Rainfall in Hue City, capital of Binh Tri Thien Province, on 30-31 October was registered at above 1,000 milimetres. The Huong (perfumed) River, which bisects this city, swelled from 3.7 metres at 07:00 hours on 30 October to 5.5 metres at 18:00 hours on the same day, 0.36 metres higher than the record level in 1953. The level of other rivers in the region, such as Bo, Thach Han and Ben Hai, also rose very high. The city and many other places in the province were deeply submerged and heavy losses were caused to production as well as public and private property. The My Chanh bridge on highway No 1 and one kilometre of rail on the north-south railroad were displaced by flood water which also disrupted traffic on many other communication arteries in the region. The local administration in close coordination with the provincial departments and services and the central government has been carrying out urgent rescue and relief operations for tens of thousands of victims stranded in the low-lying areas. [Text] [AVN034935 Hanoi VNA in English 0736 GMT 3 Nov 83]

CSO: 4200/159

END

**END OF
FICHE**

DATE FILMED

23 Nov. 1983

